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Sheila Clark
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October 1992

Newsletter 24

"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie & Marnie Mosiman, Mark Lenard, Michael Okada, Ernie Over, Susan Sackett, Marina Sirtis, Patrick Stewart, Rick Sternbach, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly, Anne Page, Rick Parfitt, Bjo Trimble.

Hi, everyone, and welcome to another newsletter. Unfortunately we have to tell you about the death of Alec Lewis who was one of the organisers of Rec Con. His death was sudden and unexpected. Alec has been very active in Star Trek and he will be missed. We would like to express our sympathies to his family and friends.

On a much happier note we would like to send our congratulations to Lorraine Kelley on her recent marriage.

We did ask you last time to send Postbag submissions in quickly, didn't we - silly us! You responded in droves which has unfortunately meant we have had to do some severe editing this time - and we're still left with 38 pages. Our apologies to those members who don't like reading the letters but it does seem, in general, to be the most popular section of the newsletter. To those of you who have had sections of your letters edited out - it doesn't mean that we didn't enjoy reading them, it is just that we had to cut and we tried to do it fairly. It was very difficult as we found that after we had cut bits where several folk had responded in similar ways to letters in the last N/L we had no option but to go on to cut paragraphs that

did say something new and might have led to further discussion. Many thanks to those of you who did write and we hope you won't be put off by the risk of being edited for length.

Please send us in any information you find out about Star Trek and any cuttings (photocopies will do) - don't just think that we're bound to get the info from someone else. Since Gene's sad death and the shakeup at the Star Trek office we do not have any more information on Star Trek than anyone else, but what we can do is collect information from as many sources as possible and pass it on to other members through the newsletter. We wish we had access to the U.S. computer networks but most people who are connected access the nets through schools, Universities or work and we have no means of doing this. As we understand it, the cost to do this as private individuals would be prohibitive. At the moment we have to reply on Eddie Yau, Margaret Rainey and a couple of other members for info but they can't keep track of all of it.

The majority of you who wrote seem to like the new layout. One member did feel the new style was too business-like and

preferred the old informal style but I'm afraid he has been outvoted as most of you found the new style easier to read. One thing some of you did notice was that the commas in the new font looked more like full stops. We didn't notice the problem until the newsletter was printed as they were okay on the masters, although the tails are rather fine - the tails seem to get lost in the photo reduction and lithoing. We're trying a different font this time. It is a public domain one and possibly not as good a quality as Trinity which we used last time. We're looking for a better professionally produced font but when Janet contacted one firm they weren't very helpful and wouldn't give us a print-out of the commas in their fonts. Janet is planning to go to the Acorn User Show in London on October 16th and will be looking at what fonts are available.

You will not find much difference in the layout of this newsletter as Janet is still learning to get along with Archie. There is so much new software to explore and it all takes time - a commodity which is sadly lacking. We do have the new scanner now but it only scans an area of approx 4" x 4" - so when sending in artwork for the newsletter please keep this in mind. Anything larger than this has to be scanned in sections. While this is possible we are finding it quite difficult to scan straight - even using a ruler. You can get away with slight variations when joining two pictures horizontally but it wouldn't be easy doing it, say 4 square. We are unlikely to be scanning artwork for zines so that can be any size, but we are mainly after smaller artwork for the newsletters. All the logos printed later in the newsletter were scanned so you can get an idea how drawings come out. Actually some of them had to be photocopy reduced first - in a couple of cases by 64%, the reduction by another 64%, the reduction by still another 64% and *that* reduction by a little more! The difficulty is that with each reduction some quality was lost. In addition, we can't guarantee always having access to a copier that will reduce.

What we are looking for this time is either some small drawings to illustrate the titles of various sections of the newsletter ie. Latest News, Reviews, Postbag etc. etc. - or

you could try designing the complete title. Send your designs to Janet - if we get several good ones we can alternate them.

We are printing in this newsletter a photo of the new DS9 cast. It was from a photocopy and it is a bit dark but as it is the only one we have we thought we would have a go in the hope that it prints okay. The result will also give us an idea of how pictures reprint. We did try various ways to lighten this one but they all resulted in loss of detail on the faces. Please bear with us when we experiment like this - we just don't know how things will look until the newsletter is printed.

Janet unfortunately couldn't make Rec-con, but Sheila and Valerie were there. We enjoyed the actual con, the hotel staff were very friendly, but we had severe reservations about the efficiency of Management (see Helen's con report). It was nice meeting so many of you. Unfortunately this will be Sheila's last con for the foreseeable future unless she can get someone to look after her mother full time; fortunately there is some prospect of occasional respite care, so she'll be trying to get it at convention time!

Talking about conventions, Glasgow will be hosting Worldcon in 1995. That will be an event to look forward to.

Our thanks to P. Buckman, Barbara Ellams, Mark French, Sherry Golding, Ann Neilson, Morag Phillips, Jim Redrup, Moira Russell, Thea Skeat, Dawn Tittley, Jenny Turner and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending information and/or cuttings.

The raffle winners are Ann McMillan, Classic Trek rubber stamps; Lisette Ellis, TNG rubber stamps and Carla Salveta a year's membership of IDIC.

Thanks to all of you who bought raffle tickets. Thanks to the raffles, donations and the collecting box we have now raised the £1000 needed to sponsor another guide dog. Jade has now qualified and is working in Aberdeen. For anyone who doesn't know, Jade is Aero's litter sister and was donated to

the Guide Dog Association by their breeder, member Joyce Devlin. (Aero has gone to Edinburgh.) A further two pups bred by Joyce are being puppy walked, one in England and the other, Sadie, here in Scotland. When Sheila took the collecting can we take to cons to Forfar, she 'booked' Sadie as IDIC's next dog. We'll be giving the Association the £1000 to sponsor her before the end of September so that they have the use of the money, although Sadie will not actually be going in for training until some time early in 1993.

So far, since we started collecting for Guide Dogs, we've managed to sponsor one dog per year; we would like to raise enough money to sponsor another guide dog next year so, you've guessed it, we're having another raffle with this newsletter. Please don't feel under any pressure to buy raffle tickets if you don't want to - it is simple to bin them. The prizes this time are an original Trek 1993 calendar plus 1 year's membership of IDIC, a TNG 1993 calendar plus 1 year's membership of IDIC and a prize of 1 year's membership of IDIC. Please state any preference and put it with your name and address or membership number on each individual ticket. Tickets are £1 (or £2) for the strip of 5 - please note that if you want £2's worth you can send both strips back (it is your name on the ticket that counts, not the number of the ticket.) Please send your tickets (and money, of course!) to Sheila or Janet by November 16th. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter. Note: Please do not send cheques or POs for less than £2; we will accept stamps (any combination of values from 1p to £1).

Thank you to Frances Abernethy, Irene Ambrose, Sandra Blackwell, Gilliam Borland, Jeremy Briggs with Stuart & Lesley Halliday & M3 fanzine, Lynne Buckley, Sandy Catchick, Sandie Cayless, Melanie Claessens, Sheila Cornell, Martina Coople, Linda Court, C Davis, Barbara Ellams, Karin Embacher, Mark French, Gloria Fry, Peter Fryer, Steven Gibb, Kathleen Glancy, staff and borrowers of Glasgow Libraries, Miss J.D. Harley, Jo Healy, Katrina Heintz, Christine Hornby, Muriel Jarrett, Christine Jones, Ruth Kurz, Lloyd Lewis, Helen Luckhurst, Nancy Mackay, Willie McGinn, Philip Morley,

Cheryl O'Connon, Jon Obee, Marion Pritchard, Taruka Queuhtezcatl, Stephanie Richards, Janis Roberts & friends, Ann Robertson, J Schmidt and friends, Michael Schramm, Jean Sloan, Bill Taylor, Jenny Turner, Linda Watt, Elaine Webb, Dee Willcox, Gaile Wood and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten or who didn't give their name who has donated money, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

Many of you are sending in your stamps already trimmed - many thanks. (Trimmed stamps should have about quarter of an inch of envelope left round them.) Some, however, because of their source, still come in untrimmed, and we'd like to thank Allison Rooney for trimming a lot of these for us.

Thanks also to Helen White for soldiering on and doing the con reports when she was feeling decidedly ill from a stomach bug. Our next con is Warp One so we could do with reports on any other ST conventions.

If you are using a computer we would be very grateful if you can send your submissions on disc. We can read BBC & Archimedes discs, MS DOS 3.5" (all formats), 5.25" (max. 720k), Atari ST discs, Amstrad WPC 3" discs. All files should be saved as ASCII text files, aligned left and preferably saved without line-end markers.

The closing date for the next newsletter is November 12th (November 8th for anything sent to Sheila). Don't forget - send postbag submissions, articles and reviews to Sheila, discs and everything else to Janet. And PLEASE put your name on all submissions. We hope to post it out around December 2nd.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 20/9/92

Help them get it right. TV researcher needs the following information: In which episode did Captain Kirk say "Beam me up, Scotty/Mr. Scott" or the nearest thing to it. Please contact Barbara Ellams, Flat 2, 32 St. Mary's Road, London SE15 2DW. Tel 071 734 8080 extension 2023 Work, or 071 639 6714 Home.

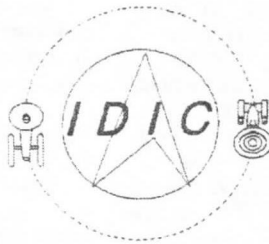
IDIC LOGO

On this page and the next we have printed a selection of the logos which members have sent in. We have tried to choose the ones which will reproduce best but we are leaving it to members to choose the club's new logo. Please pick the three designs which you think best portray the club's aims - try to concentrate on the design and not the quality of the artwork or spelling as we can always ask the designer to redraw the logo, or, if necessary, put them in touch with an artist they can collaborate with. Send the three numbers, in order of preference (your favourite first), to Helen White, 24 Fletcher Gardens, Amen Corner, Binfield, Bracknell, Berks RG12 4FJ - closing date November 15th.

We would like to thank (in no particular order) Chris Bailey, Robert Gray, Karen MacGarvie, Edward Woo, Steven Gibb, Michael Crouch, Ann Robertson, John Byrne, Gary Moffat, Andrew Pennington, William McGinn, Martin Stahl, Dave Smith, Mark Burchell, Morag Phillips, James Williamson for the designs as well as everyone else who sent in designs.



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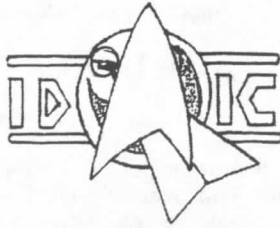
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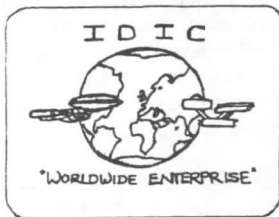
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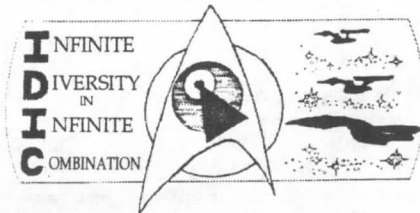
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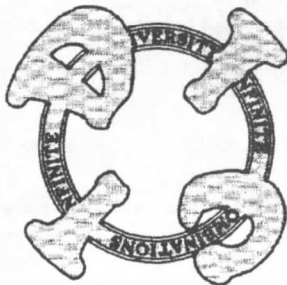
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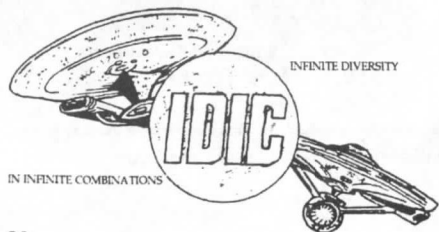
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LATEST STAR TREK NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton

STAR TREK ON TV

Original Series

Well, the original series returned to our screens on BBC 2 on August 19th, which incidentally was Gene Roddenberry's birthday. The screening began with The Cage which has never been shown on British TV before, followed by The Man Trap the following week. I wonder how many of you have noticed that the BBC now have new masters. Not only does this mean we get the teaser before the credits, but so far the episodes have been shown uncut as well. TV Zone reported that the masters would be poorer quality but I can't say I've noticed. They look fine. The TV Times reported that the BBC will be showing all 79 episodes - including the banned ones, so let's hope they are correct.

The BBC have stated they will be showing the episodes in the order they were first screened in the States. This differs from the more logical Production Order, which is the order CIC released them in. We've printed a check list for you in the US order elsewhere in the newsletter - the list includes production numbers.

Star Trek: The Next Generation

TNG is to be screened on Sky twice a night, 5 days a week, starting on October 5th. Dawn Tittley received a letter from Sky saying the same episode will air twice each day at 5pm and 10.30pm. I would have thought it would be better to have the first screening of an episode late in the evening and then repeated early evening the next day. That way concerned parents could check episodes out before letting the kids see them. We don't know in what order they will show them so we've printed a check list in the U.S. screening order elsewhere in the newsletter.

If Sky continue to screen 5 episodes a week it will only take them 15 weeks to show them all. I wonder if they will hang on to their exclusive screening rights until July 1994 or whether they will be willing to release their rights and open negotiations for seasons 4 - 6. Unfortunately, considering what happened with the football, if TNG is popular on Sky there is no guarantee that they won't outbid the BBC for the future seasons.

STAR TREK on BBC

Star Trek screening dates and ratings - the figures are taken from Broadcast

Ep. No	Title	Date shown	Viewers (million)	Pos. (BBC 2)
01	The Cage	19/8/92	4.95	1
06	The Man Trap	26/8/92	4.52	3
08	Charlie X	2/9/92		
02	Where No Man Has Gone Before	9/9/92		
	STV: The Final Frontier	12/9/92		
07	Naked Time	16/9/92		

(info Barbara Ellams and Eddie Yau)

STAR TREK ON VIDEO

In September CIC started releasing season 5 of TNG on video at 2 tapes, 4 episodes per month. A CIC spokesperson indicated to TV Zone that they wish to release DS9 as soon as possible after its January '93 January release. They have *very provisionally* pencilled in April for the release of the pilot. The extended version of Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country will be available for rental on September 17th '92.

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION

Star Trek: The Next Generation has been awarded 5 Emmys, all in technical areas. (info Entertainment Tonight 2/9.)

The 4th season of TNG is being shown by RTE in Ireland - Saturdays 7.30pm. [*Lucky people*]

There is a question about Michelle Forbes (Ensign Ro), first we heard she was moving to DS9 and then we heard she was leaving the series altogether, but Bjo Trimble reports that she is staying with TNG and beams up to the new Starship Enterprise.

ST:TNG Season 6 Broadcast Schedule compiled by Edwin Yau.

Ep.	PC	Title	Date
127	227	Time's arrow II	19/ 9/92
128	228	Realm of Fear	26/ 9/92
129	229	Man of the People	3/10/92
130	230	Relics	10/10/92
131	231	Schisms	17/10/92
132	232	Q-Me	24/10/95

127. "Time's Arrow II" - The conclusion of the season 5's cliff hanger. Find out if Data really dies!

128. "Realm of Fear" - plot unknown. [*According to one computer source this is a Barclay story.*]

129. "Man of the People" - Plot unknown.

130. "Relics" - The eagerly awaited Scotty episode! The "Miracle Worker" lives up to his name and helps the crew of the Enterprise-D

save their ship from disaster when he beamed on board after being in limbo for 75 years due to a transporter malfunction!!

Additional rumours to this episode are that you will see the original TV series Enterprise and that there could be very special appearances by Nichelle Nichols and DeForest Kelley! [*CNN reported that Scotty is discovered in stasis on a freighter, and he uses the holodeck to recreate the bridge of the ORIGINAL SERIES Enterprise in a tribute to his friends.*]

131. "Schisms" - Plot unknown.

132. "Q Me" - The first of two possible Q episodes! Plot unknown.

Other news:

A few rumours are now floating around about other possible 6th season TNG episodes. One very big rumour which could prove very interesting is that Arnold Schwarzenegger may be in an episode of TNG! Jonathan Frakes is scheduled to direct around four episodes this season.

"Limits" - Strange things which begin to happen aboard the Enterprise lead to a discovery that warp engines are environmentally damaging the fabric of space.

"The Rivals" - Whilst in competition with each other, Geordi and a rival renew their relationship while the Enterprise tries to get rid of an alien plane.

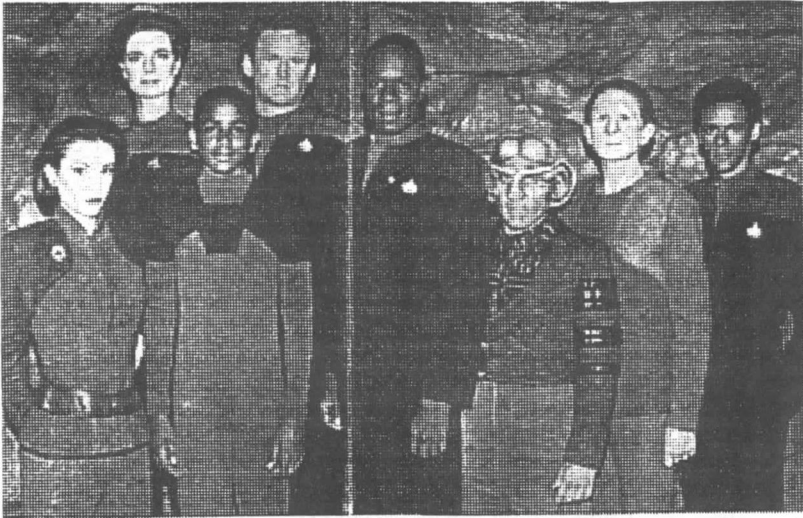
"Rascals" or "Undercover" - Away Team members are reduced to children due to a transporter accident.

STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE

Casting Announcement (source Computerize ST Section - thanks to Margaret Rainey)

Avery Brooks (Commander Benjamin Sisko, in charge of DS9): His most memorable role was as Hawk in the ABC series "Spencer: For Hire" with Robert Urich.

Nana Visitor (Major Kira Nerys, Bejoran first officer): Played the role of Bryn Newhouse



CAPTAIN James Kirk and the crew of the *Starship Enterprise* first boldly trod into space. Captain Jean-Luc Picard and his team followed and now another generation of *Star Trekkers* is on the launchpad. This time, the new television series,

called *Star Trek: Deep Space Nine*, will feature the adventures of (from left) Nana Visitor, Terry Farrell, Cirroc Lofton, Colm Meaney, Avery Brooks, Armin Shimerman, Rene Auberjonois and Siddig El Fadil.

on the short lived series "Working Girl" (based on the film).

Rene Auberjonois (Odo, the shapeshifting alien and "special character" of the show): Well known as Clayton Edicott III on the long-running ABC sitcom "Benson", he was also Colonel West in "Star Trek VI", the role that was put back into the film for the video version (he presented Operation Retrieve and was also the assassin at the end of the movie).

Terry Farrell (Lieutenant Jadzia Dax, the Trill science officer): Long list of credits including the films "Hellraiser II" and the Rodney Dangerfield film "Back to School"; her major TV credit was as Lauri Casewell on the Lloyd Bridges/ABC series "Paper Dolls".

Colm Meaney (Chief Operations Officer Miles Edward O'Brien): We all know him from the same role in *ST:TNG*.

Armin Shimerman (Quark, the Ferengi administrator): Long list of TV guest credits including "Beauty and the Beast", "Quantum Leap", "Murder She Wrote", "LA Law" and

"*ST:TNG*" (he played Ferengis in both "Last Outpost" and "Peak Performance" as well as the uncredited Wedding Box in "Haven") (yes, that was Armin's face).

Siddig El Fadil (Dr. Julian Bashir, Lieutenant J.G.): A British-born Arab actor for which *DS9* marks his American acting debut.

Cirroc Lofton (Jake Sisco): A twelve year old African American actor seen in the film "Beethoven"; this marks his TV debut.

Rosalind Chao (Keiko) will be a semi-regular on the show, as she is on *TNG*; no mention on the casting of Naag, Quark's son; on Gul Dacel, the Cardassian captain; or on the Bajoran spiritual leader.

From TV Zone 34:

The Trill Science Officer is Jadzia Dax, the current host body is a female in her late twenties but the symbiosis creature itself is hundreds of years old and its last host body was male. The Ferengi barkeeper is called Quark and the doctor is named Julian Amoros. He is a young male Human in his

late twenties who has requested assignment to Deep Space Nine in the hopes of action and adventure! Unfortunately he finds that reality is some what different from his romanticised dreams.

The series has been allotted three sound stages, the same as TNG (meaning one fifth

of the sound stages at Paramount are devoted to Star Trek). The new series boasts a large promenade set on the space station where the shops, bars and holosuites are situated. The station will house a large Ops Room, which incorporates much of the functions of a Starship's bridge and engineering section.

☆☆☆☆

STAR TREK IN THE NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton

The purpose of this column is to let you know which magazines to look out for as well as letting you know some of what has been printed in the papers. Most magazines are available from the book shops in the info sheets.

STARLOG 182 September 1992 . Includes an article on Tek World and an obituary for Ian Wolde (Septimus in Bread & Circuses and Mr. Atoz in All Our Yesterdays.)

STARLOG 183 October 1992 . Includes an article on David Ogden Stiers who played the scientist who had to commit suicide in the TNG episode Half A Life.

TV ZONE 34 September 1992. Includes an article on Brent Spiner and on Gene's pilot, Questor Tapes.

STAR TREK POSTER BOOKS

Issue 27 - Articles on Gates McFadden, The Bonding and Booby Trap.

Issue 28 - Articles on Wil Wheaton, The Enemy and The Price.

Issue 29 - Articles on Denise Crosby, The Vengeance Factor and The Defector.

CINEFANTASTIQUE October 1992 gives us another of their regular double issue specials. A hefty 74 pages of it are devoted to Star Trek, almost exclusively ST:TNG. The basic message seems to be 'Classic Trek is dead, long live Star Trek: The Next Generation'. This being Cinefantastique, there are one or two back-biting comments, but far fewer than usual and it is a generally upbeat and positive look at the world of the Next Generation.

Included are articles on the following: TNG's success, the return (or not) of Denise Crosby, Spock in TNG, Wesley's return in 'First Duty', the return to and re-departure from TNG of producer Herb Wright, why Q didn't appear in TNG season five, the much discussed 'gay rights' episode of TNG and gay issues in Star Trek generally, costumes for TNG, some of the unscheduled moments from TNG, the construction of TNG's spacecraft, special effects for TNG, make-up for TNG, composers for TNG and TNG's writing staff. There are also features on Rick Berman, Michael Piller, Brent Spiner, cinematographer Marvin Rush, production designer Richard James, Rick Sternbach and Michael Okuda and their efforts to keep TNG's futuristic science credible and a look at the character Ensign Ro (embarrassing timing as she has reportedly just left the series and will not now feature in Star Trek: Deep Space Nine). There is also a behind the scenes look at the filming of TNG, and an episode guide to TNG season five and a preview of the forthcoming ST:DS9. - Z.T. Hunt.

"Master of the Universe" People 11/11/91
A 5 page article on Gene Roddenberry and Star Trek.

"They're taking us back to the future Captain" Radio Times 15-21 August, 1992
Full page colour photo of Kirk and Spock on the cover, taken from an unusual angle. 4 page colour spread inside.

"Star Trek" TV Times 15/21 August, 1992.
Short article saying the BBC are going to

show all 79 episodes - including the banned ones - for the first time. an episode:"

"Spock The Difference" TV Super Guide 15/8/92. An article heralding the return of original Trek to BBC 2. Included some trivia and a short article on William Shatner. The trivia not always accurate - "Star Trek was set in the year 2069"??? Since when was that the 23rd century? Did Kirk really say "Energise the transporter beams" rather than "Beam me up, Scotty"? Are 80% of Star Trek fans female? Actually this was nearer the truth back in the 70's. It's probably 50/50 these days.

"Kirk is Lost in Space" Daily Mirror 15/8/92. Article on The Cage.

"Out of the time warp" Norman Stinchcombe seems to be a fan of the original series - "The pilot show flopped but with a new cast and scripts by some of the best science fiction writers around, was a triumph. It's a mixture of liberal humanism - respect other cultures however strange - adventure and humour ensured it celluloid immortality."

"Thank Your Lucky Stars" Evening Times 17/8/92. Full page article about The Cage and the development of the series. The article also gives a mention to the Glasgow local group, The Away Team.

"An Enterprise Doomed to Success" Daily Mail, 20/8/92. Peter Paterson reviews The Cage which he didn't like - "So, had I been a TV critic back in 1964, I think I would have reached the same conclusion, as I have today: if this is the future, it has no future. And I would have been just as wrong."

"Mr Nimoy knocks Spocks off the rest" Daily Star 20/8/92. Stafford Hildren wasn't so keen either - "If they hadn't beamed up a crew of better actors, this series would never have got off the ground."

"Life not quite as we know it" Evening Standard 20/8/92. Ian Irving seems to like Star Trek - "Trying to imagine what the world would be like if Star Trek never existed is difficult - in fact, it could almost be a plot for

"No going back for Kirk" TV Super Guide 22/8/92. According to this William Shatner doesn't watch episodes of the original series because he doesn't like seeing himself 26 years younger.

"To boldly go in search of new SF" Daily Mail, 22/8/92. Marcus Nerkmann considered The Cage was the most interesting programme of the week although, "It was enlivened for me only by Mr. Spock's unnerving tendency to break into a broad grin."

"How did Star Trek ever lift-off?" Sunday Mail 23/8/92. Scott Robison didn't like The Cage either, "The Engines will never take it, Captain? On the evidence of this, never mind the Injuns - neither would the Cowboys, or the Yanks, or the Brits."

"Q Charts - The Dilithium Crystals Cannae Take It, Captain" Q Magazine September '92.

Ten musical thingies inspired by Star Trek. Compiled by Johnny Black.

1) **T'Pau** - The sadly missed "T'Pau" took their name, in 1982, from a Vulcan Stateswoman in Star Trek who had an affair with Spock's father. [*Janet: that's news to me - and probably Sarek too.*]

2) **Where's Captain Kirk?** - Affectionate cap-doff to all on the Enterprise by Spizz in '79. Made minor ripples in the indie world, but didn't chart nationally.

3) **My Father Was A Teacher** - Mr Spock's voice is sampled saying, "My mother was a teacher" for an inexplicably titled track on Megabyte's '88 album Powerplay.

4) **Star Trekkin'** - The Firm's thought-provoking tribute to Kirk & co reached Number 1 in June '87.

5) **Star Wrekkin'** - A cruel parody of the above, by the B-Boys a month later. It flopped.

6) **Final Frontier** - Features on the 1989 album Bass, by Simon Harris, as does the similarly Trekesque Stardate.

7) **Tight Connection to My Heart** - Bob Dylan's '85 song includes the line "I'll go along with this charade until I can think my way out". Coincidentally, in the episode of

Star Trek entitled The Squire of Gothos, Sulu asks, "How far do we go along with this charade?" To which James T. philosophically responds: "Until we can think our way out".

8) **Future Games** - Many sections of the Trek, including sampled voices of Kirk, Spock and McCoy, can be heard on Spirit's '77 album.

9) **Vulcan Mind Probe** - Appears alongside Spock Gets Funky on plump keyboard wizard George Duke's 1976 album Solo.

10) **A Joyful Noise Unto The Creator** - Galliano's 1992 album - more specifically the track Totally Together - includes the line, "You live long and prosper, just like Spock, Now what's that at the door? I'm sure I heard a Vulcan." Hey! Deep.

"Beaming down a message of doom"

People Magazine 6/9/92. William Shatner

☆☆☆☆

ACTOR NEWS

The following info is extracted from Bjo Trimble's Space Time Continuum, August 1992. See zine ads for ordering details.

Original Series Fan Mail: send letters to Lincoln Enterprises, POB 691370, W. Hollywood, CA 6006

Gene Roddenberry's Authorized Biography is being written by David Alexander - he's interested in memories, photos, etc. - Write first about what you have: 2005 Palo Verde Ave, Suite 325, Long Beach, CA 90815, USA. Gene's original ST:TMP script, 'The God Thing', will be out as a book soon.

William Shatner is in National Lampoon's 'Loaded Weapon', with Emilio Estevez. 'Believe', which he wrote with Michael Tobias is being adapted by Marvel Comics. Bill has received a \$750,000 advance for his memoirs. 'Tek War' is optioned to Atlantis Films for a TV film series in which Shatner will appear. The series will be comic books from Epic/Marvel.

DeForest Kelly: the Kelleys celebrate their 47th wedding anniversary and Carolyn's birthday on October 5th.

believes we're only a generation away from destruction unless we stop burning fossil fuels, the rain-forests and change our methods of agriculture.

"Never mind space being the final frontier - some people might not make it past the local nick" Computing 17/9/92.

Canadian Richard Brandow, who writes scripts for TNG, has been accused of planting a computer virus which corrupted thousands of copies of Aldus software. The virus meant that a peace greeting to Macintosh users around the world flashed up on corrupted machines in a most illogical manner. If found guilty he could spend the next 10 years in prison.

George Takei: Deepest sympathies to him on the loss of his 105 year old grandmother. George was honoured for community service at South Bay Community Helpline benefit dinner.

Patrick Stewart was voted Top Male Turn-on with 54% TV Guide votes.

Whoopi Goldberg got a Service Award of Human Rights Campaign Fund. She stars in two movies with Ted Danson, 'Made in America' and 'Change of Heart'.

LeVar Burton marries Stephanie Cozart on October 3rd. He is proud of 'Reading Rainbow' which has received 6 Emmy nominations.

Majel Barrett-Roddenberry would like everyone to know she's doing fine, thanks.

Colm Meaney is DS9's Operations Officer.

Michelle Forbes (Ensign Ro) will not be in DS9 but stays with TNG.

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William Shatner: The series *Rescue 911* which he hosts is currently being shown on London Weekend Television, early Saturday mornings.

Jonathan Frakes, looking very young, appeared in the episode of *Hart to Hart*, "Harts and Palms", which was shown on Sky One on 12/9/92.

Colm Meaney gets villainous in the upcoming "Under Siege". Working with fellow bad guys Tommy Lee Jones (of

Lonesome Dove) and Gary (Lethal Weapon) Busey, he tries to hijack the battleship U.S.S. Missouri and its nuclear arsenal. Fortunately, there's a hero of sorts around to stop them: Steven Segal. (info Starlog 182)

Whoopi Goldberg appeared in an AIDS awareness episode of 'A Different World' on Ch. 4, 4th August. She is also currently in the U.S. cinema top ten, starring opposite our own Dame Maggie Smith, in the Touchstone comedy 'Sister Act'. (info Z.T. Hunt)

☆☆☆☆

MERCHANDISE

compiled by Janet Quarton

BOOKS -

Sept **WAR DRUMS** (TNG23) by John

Vornhold. Pocket Books, Titan. The planet Selva - a lush colony world settled by a hardy group of Humans, who found the planet already inhabited by a small gang of young Klingons. When violence erupts between the two groups, Captain Picard and the USS Enterprise are sent to render assistance. Worf leads a landing party and he and his party find that the old hatreds and prejudices between Humans and Klingons are revived.

DEATH COUNT (57) by L.A. Graf. Pocket Books/Titan. The disappearance of Andorian scientific genius Muav Haslev fuels tensions between the Orions and Andorians - tensions that come close to a full scale war. The Enterprise is called to patrol the sector and on arrival the crew encounters an inexplicable series of events, beginning with missing equipment. Then there is a deadly transporter accident and three Federation officials are murdered. Kirk and crew must solve the puzzle, before the Enterprise faces destruction and the galaxy faces an interplanetary war.

IMZADI by Peter David. The 2nd TNG Pocket Books Hardcover. It tells the story of Commander Riker's and Deanna

Troi's tempestuous history together.

VIDEOS -ST:TNG

CIC will be continuing their release of TNG videos in September/October with the 5th season. Tapes to watch out for:

Redemption II/Darmok (51)
Ensign Ro/Silicon Avatar (52)
Disaster/The Game (53)
Unification I & II (54)
A Matter of Time/New Ground (55)
Hero Worship/Violations(56)

At long last the **Astral Symphony** has arrived in the shops. It is on the Milan label and its catalogue number is 412832 F:BM470 Dx630. Interestingly, the compilation is produced by Cliff Eidelman of STVI fame, and the tracks are as follows:

1. Life is a dream (STV)
2. The meld (STTMP)
3. Returning to Vulcan (STIII)
4. Battle in the Mutara Nebula (STII)
5. Enterprise clears mooring (STII)
6. Chekov's run (STIV)
7. Ilia's theme (STTMP)
8. Without help (STV)
9. The Enterprise (STTMP)
10. Prologue & main title (STIII)
11. Hospital chase (STIV)
12. The whaler (STIV)
13. An angry God (STV)
14. Genesis countdown (STII)
15. The katra ritual (STIII)

16. Home again (STIV)

The album is a real pleasure to listen to. There are no jarring clashes of style, which I had expected considering that the individual tracks were recorded at different times in different circumstances.

Also available, but probably not as readily, is **The Original Star Trek Box** which is a boxed CD set comprising *The Cage/Where no man has gone before*, *The Doomsday Machine/Amok Time* and finally *The Next Generation: Encounter at Farpoint*. It's on the ZYX Records label and has the catalogue number ZYX 7704-2. (info Jon Vernon)

STAR TREK: THE GAME, Classic Games. Price between \$34.99 and \$49.95. Designed for up to six players, the object is to visit each of the five planets located on the board and answer trivia questions from five categories, each of which test your knowledge of the classic Trek series. The game is limited to 200,000 copies. (info Starlog 182)

CONTAGION SOUVENIR VIDEOS (also still available **SILVERCON VIDEO**) - SAE for details to Contagion, PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR Scotland.

Woolworths are currently offering selected Star Trek videos (both Classic Trek and TNG) at £5.99 each. (info Z.T. Hunt)

THE SHEFFIELD SPACE CENTRE 33 The Wicker, Sheffield S3 8HS. (Also Mail order, SAE for catalogue). Catalogue 29 - this 60 page A5 catalogue has 33 pages of Star Trek items, including the paperbacks and PAL videos, as well as scripts, blueprints, a vast range of T-shirts, audio cassettes, animation cells, CDs, Uniform tops and classic dress, magazines, boxer shorts, ties, belt buckles, posters, calendars, models and dolls, uniform patterns, costume bits and pieces - insignia, patches, braid, rubber stamps, mugs and plates and props. (info Stephen Shaw)

Fans can order Classic Trek and TNG novels from Titan Books Mail Order, 19 Valentine Place, London SE1 8QH. Write for list. (info Heather Noyce)

KATHIES COMICS 20 Market Avenue, Plymouth, Devon. Tel No: Plymouth (0752) 257800. They sell Star Trek merchandise, get regular deliveries from the USA and will order any item that you want. (info Steve Lee)

Other useful addresses:

ANDROMEDA BOOKSHOP, 84 Suffolk St. Birmingham B1 1TA. For free catalogue send 4"x9" SAE. Wide selection of SF & ST books.

AT THE SIGN OF THE DRAGON, 131 Sheen Lane, East Sheen, London SW14 8AE. 6"x9" SAE for more info. Wide selection of SF & ST books; flexible standing order system.

ENGLE MARKETING (Thunderbooks), 332 Lytham Road, Blackpool, FY4 1DW. (0253) 48321. Engle have a wide selection of books, comics, magazines, postcards etc. and cover most S/F and TV Fantasy.

FINAL FRONTIER BOOKSHOP, 43/44 Silver Arcade, Leicester LE1 5FB. Send large SAE for list.

MOVIE BOULEVARD The soundtracks for the Star Trek movies. The Movie Boulevard, Baker House, 9 New York Road, Leeds, LS2 9PF. tel (0532) 422888. They offer a fast and reliable service.

S & P PARKER (Movie Market), The Medlycott Centre, Gainsborough, Milborne Port, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 5BA. Tel. No. (0963) 251199. Simon and Paul Parker have a wide selection of Classic Trek; Next Generation; 60s TV Shows and general photographs for sale at very reasonable prices and for just £2 a year they will send regular catalogues and updated supplements.

LINCOLN ENTERPRISES, P.O. Box 691370, Los Angeles, CA 90069, U.S.A. Phone (818) 989-4878. Accepts Visa, Master and American Express cards. Send a couple of International Reply Coupons for their latest colour catalogue. It will probably be sent surface and take 6 weeks or more to arrive but it is worth waiting for as Lincoln has just about everything a ST and TNG collector could wish for.

INTERGALACTIC TRADING CO. INC. P.O. Box 1516, Longwood, FL 32752-1516, USA. Phone 1-407-831 8344, Fax 1-407-332 0142. Accepts Visa, Master, American Express cards. Star Trek and other Media. Send a couple of IRCs for their current catalogue.

MOVIE POSTER GALLERY, 308 1/2 S. State No. 25, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, USA. Phone 1-313-665 3151. (Wonderful photos and movie posters.) Accepts Visa and Master cards.

NEW EYE STUDIO, PO Box 632, Willimantic, CT 06226, USA. (They have a lot of ST items, also second hand items.) Accepts Visa and Master cards; airmail delivery possible.

STARLAND, PO Box 24590, Denver, CO 80224, USA. Phone 1-303-671 8735. (They have a lot of ST and Sci-Fi items.) Accepts

Visa, Master and American Express cards; they also have a free location service if you search for special items.

STAR TECH, P.O. Box 456, Dunlap, TN 37327, USA. (ST and Sci-Fi.) \$3 for 123 page catalogue; accepts Visa and Master cards. They have a lot of ST items plus some rare Leonard Nimoy recordings.

T-K GRAPHICS P.O. Box 1951, Baltimore, MD 21203, U.S.A. Cards, I-D Cards, Stickers etc. Send a couple of IRCs for their catalogue.

TREKCOLLECTIBLES P.O. Box 519, Cape Girardeau, Missouri 637, U.S.A. Out of print Star Trek books, comics, records and tapes. Send a couple of IRCs for list.

All the above U.S. companies, except Star Tech, take 2 IRCs or \$1.00 for a catalogue.

☆☆☆☆

POSTBAG

We welcome your letters of comment and discussion for this section on the understanding that they will be printed and may be edited for length or content at our discretion.

Some pointers: When referring to anything in a previous n/l make it clear what you are talking about for those who do not have that newsletter.

Keep your letters as short as possible - a maximum of 700-750 words or one of 'our' pages. If you find this impossible consider whether you should be writing an article instead. Longer letters will be edited for length. Where more than one person responds to a question with similar answers we may edit out some of these just so that we can get more in the newsletter.

We encourage active discussion, but please try to avoid negative and aggressive letters.

Keep letters on a separate sheet from other submissions and put for postbag'.

Sheila Clark - Dundee

To Cathy Halford - We're speaking about the Klingon *Empire*, and surely we can assume that this consists of several different species just as the Federation does, with each species crewing one or more ships. In Classic Trek the Enterprise crew met representatives of one species; since then, for some reason they've been meeting a totally different species. Maybe the Klingons have rotated the areas each species patrols. Incidentally, has anyone else noticed - the movie Klingons' skull ridges point downwards, while the TNG ones point upwards...

To Kathleen Glancy - I can suggest a third reason for the destruction of the Klingon moon bringing down the Empire. We're told in Day of the Dove, "There are poor planets in the Klingon sector." (Hence their need to expand.) The Klingon Empire might be in an area of space that is poor in useful ores/minerals and when Praxis exploded it could have destroyed the Empire's only major source of dilithium plus

whatever else they mined there, thus causing a shortage from which the Empire couldn't recover as it had no back-up mines to exploit.

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - Back in the days of Classic Trek, Dorothy Fontana, the then story editor, stated categorically, and presumably with Gene's blessing, that Spock had NO siblings, either full or half on either side. Although this was to avoid getting a plethora of stories where Spock's brother or sister came on board, it does provide a typical example of how the movies, to make a dramatic point, totally ignored facts that were established (even as studio policy) during the making of Classic Trek.

To Kay Stagg - I fully agree that Uhura should have been able to speak Klingonese. Even with the universal translator available, it would make sense for a communications officer to learn the language of the main enemy in case she picked up the odd communication. Even if she couldn't, however, it would have made more sense if the computer had put on a screen what to say and she then said it. You can't look up something in a dictionary unless you already know the word. How would a non-English speaker go about looking up a word like pheasant, especially in a hurry? Under 'F'? Come to that, what common English word can be phonetically spelled ghoti? Answers on postcards, please!

To Kirstie Jordan - Salia had to take the form of a young girl because the crew knew she was young; but I agree, she could have been a very plain young girl. What I found unrealistic about the situation was that for someone who appeared to have spent her entire life with only one companion Salia seemed to find it very easy to socialise. I would have expected her to be terrified by the sheer weight of numbers of people on the ship (let alone the numbers she would meet once she got home).

Edward Woo - 'John Lennon' City

Replies to N/L22

To Steven Gibb - as the Bird of Prey was only an experimental one that could fire when cloaked, its principal flaw was the enormous power drain. Hence it had to use

impulse power to travel. This plasma exhaust could be easily detected as in ST VI. Also the Bird of Prey was small; it would be far more difficult for the Klingon battle cruiser to fire when cloaked because of their size. The Romulans may not have developed their cloaking device to such a level, preferring other technological breakthroughs.

To Eddie Yau - The point about no alien representatives at the C in C meeting is quite valid if Starfleet is meant to represent all UFP planets. The problem I see is that Starfleet HQ is on Earth, the home of the Human race.

To Ray Dowsett - it would be difficult for Picard to know all his crew of over 1000 people. His crew is not static; there are plenty of crew transfers during the mission. Picard will know section heads; the only way he would be aware of a crew member would be if (s)he was introduced to him, or if he was given an excellent report on one - or a poor one, like Barclay in Hollow Pursuits.

To Kathleen Glancy - I recently wrote an article about single parent families in Trek. I hope you will comment on it when it's printed. Your point about the Federation having the technology to wipe minds and induce new memories is plausible. If you look at today, hypnosis and various mind-altering drugs can induce memory loss. In the episode The Battle, Dr. Crusher mentioned the charting of the brain - a significant step in the understanding of how the brain works, which is evidence of what can be done to the brain. But in Who Watches the Watchers, the memory wipe technique didn't work - so again, it will depend on the alien's psychology.

To Lee Sansome - Starfleet medical knowledge is good but it was the first time that Borg parts had infiltrated a Human, so care was needed in removing it. Dr. Crusher had to be careful and letting the body's immune system do the healing can sometimes be better than a laser. The 'futuristic elastoplasts' served a purpose, to indicate Picard was not fully fit or completely healed.

To Nina Lynch - Worf does get a good fight - and even gets injured - in Qpid.

To Ann Peters - you make a good point about the turbolift doors, but there are in fact two pairs, so thin that they look like one. (The other solution is that it's just an oversight on the production side!)

[Sheila - my apologies to Edward - I had this typed up for N/L 23 and somehow missed copying it to send on to Janet.]

In reply to N/L 23:

Somebody at Contagion mentioned that the original Enterprise blueprint had kitchens. After checking them I found the following points; there are basic and exotic food and beverage preparation facilities in the secondary hull. There are also food and beverage services in the mess room.

From this it seems that a kitchen or two would appear on each ship as the computer can't produce every meal in the star systems, especially if they encounter new races. New meals would have to be made or a sample obtained before the computers could duplicate it to the exact ingredients and amounts and taste.

To Karen Davies - I do agree with your point that if ST VII is made the press and critics would again comment on the age of the cast. It's just envy by these people for it has lasted over 25 years. They never commented about other famous actors or actresses who are pushing 60 and still making Hollywood films, like Clint Eastwood in his new cowboy film or Jane Fonda. Again, the critics never comment on how much money is made in ST - VI will gross over \$100 million.

To Baerbel Schmidt, Gloria Fry, Lorna Elliott - Like you, I was very happy when TNG was announced and made because Gene was at the helm. As for DS9, I was initially concerned about its concept as the 'Great Man' was not there. As I read Rick Berman's and Michael Piller's views on DS9 I feel a little more comfortable with its using some of Gene's ideas and concepts and some of their own. I think DS9 will be good but we have to wait and see in January 1993.

Sara Jackson - Leeds

To Gloria Fry - Scott Bakula in the main role for DS9? What a wonderful suggestion! The actor has certainly shown a vast talent as Sam Beckett in Quantum Leap and I think he would make a great Commander Sisko. Yes, why not let Sisko have a daughter instead of a son? It would certainly prove more challenging regarding character development. We've had Worf/Alexander, Kirk/David, Beverly/Wesley, Deanna/Ian, so why not a girl for once? I agree that it is about time for some decent female roles or at the least a more healthy approach to existing ones (Deanna Troi, etc) and the sad end of such a powerful presence as Suzie Plakson's K'Ehleyr was nothing less than a crime.

To Guy Wigmore - No offence, Guy, but let's put our brain into gear first! I certainly haven't seen any evidence of Picard's leadership on the wane; very much the opposite in fact, regarding such episodes as Reunion, Redemption, etc. K'mpec would hardly have placed the future of the entire Klingon culture in the hands of a Human who had difficulty in coping with "culture clashes, superpower negotiations" etc, etc. Okay, so you may not be a Picard fan, but that's hardly an excuse for taking pot-shots at Patrick Stewart's interpretation of the character. In my opinion Mr Stewart does not need to say much of anything, since a whole wealth of character complexity crosses his face in every scene; so to accuse the man of not relishing his part is absurd. Concerning Riker, well, as far as I can see the Commander got his chance in BOBW and only just managed to scrape through. Riker and Shelby, a marriage made in heaven? Hardly. The aggravating chemistry between the two brought a whole new meaning to the phrase 'divide and conquer' and it's a wonder the Borg didn't manage to inflict a good deal more damage on the Enterprise during all their bickering. Okay, so they did manage to resolve their differences but if anyone saved the day it was surely Data. I seem to remember Captain Riker on the verge of turning kamikaze with both his ship and crew before the android's timely intervention.

Dawn Tittley - Birmingham

To Jane Fenn - thanks for your article about the Star Trek Exhibition at the Air and Space Museum in Washington. As you know by now, the exhibition has been extended to January 1993, and on my coach tour in November I intend to visit, and without your article I probably would have been in the same position you were in. But I shall now make sure I get hold of a pass before I go.

As a very recent member of fandom I have to say how pleased I am to finally realise that liking science fiction is not so 'weird' as I had been brainwashed into thinking. I've liked sci-fi for many years, but no-one I knew felt the same, until a workmate introduced me to IDIC and fandom in general. I now wish I'd found this sooner, as I'm sure I've missed out on many years of good debate and friendship.

Finally, a request. Does anyone know of a national Star Wars fan club? If so, please let me know as I'd be very interested in joining. *[Ed - as always, Sheila or Janet will be glad to forward letters.]*

Ronnie Reid - Kilbirnie, Ayrshire

To Carol Halford - We of the Imperial Klingon Race do not like to be referred to as 'Boneheads'. Also, in Kirk's time there were Imperial Warriors but we believed that for us to infiltrate the Federation we required to genetically alter some of our noble warriors so that they could mingle more easily amongst your kind - 'Human Fusions' as you refer to them. You are also correct in your view that our Homeworld, Kling, has a hot climate. This is due to a high, dense layer of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere retaining heat on the planet surface - the greenhouse effect, I think you call it. You are however wrong about the ridges on the Klingons' heads. The Imperial Race evolved from a dog-like creature, much like how the Terrans developed from the primates, and this is why the vertebrae extend over the forehead. These ridges also become more pronounced as a Klingon ages.

To Baerbel Schmidt - In Classic Trek, the Klingons were always depicted as the bad guys, but in my opinion they were not. They

were exactly like the Human race - suspicious of other people they did not understand. We can now see this from certain episodes of The Next Generation; the Terran race and numerous other races still have a distinct distrust for each other.

To Robert Kirkwood (Kolorth vestai Karasti) - I am a member of your illustrious Assault Group but having read your article 'The Change' I cannot fully agree with your views on the appearance of Klingons. I do agree with the Klingon High Council that nothing happened to change it because we have always looked this way. (See reply to Kathy Halford, above, for details.) I look forward to reading the next 'Bird of Prey' newsletter in October. (Kalex Karastai)

To Claudia Wuttke - I have to disagree with your views on the Klingons. Just because they behave differently from Humans doesn't make them uncivilised. The Klingon people are a highly educated race and to them the Terrans would appear uncivilised.

Kay Stagg - Guildford

To Lorna Elliott - I agree entirely with you that some of Kirk's heated reaction regarding the Klingons was directed at Spock. Something seemed to be drastically wrong with their 'famed' friendship at the beginning of ST VI, and I am just glad they managed to sort it out by the end. I have heard through that mysterious grapevine called fandom that Leonard Nimoy would like to do a film where Kirk and Spock really do fall out with a dramatic reunion at the end. Presumably he believes that like the destruction of the Enterprise in ST III, it would make a dramatic effect. I just hope he never gets his idea to script level as I for one could not cope with the stress. I also do not like destruction of Starships or people. I don't mind a bit of suffering along the way, but please, no animosity between Kirk and Spock.

To Karen Davies - I am sure your desire to see Hero Worship was just as great as our desire to see an 'uncut' version of ST VI. I spent all day Saturday and Sunday morning at SOL III manning a dealer's table and was not able to see the first showing.

That 'uncut' version, by the way, has not been shown at any cinema. It had extra footage which no-one had seen, so of course people wanted to see it. I think perhaps your complaint would be justified if it had been shown to an empty room with just a few people dotted about watching it, but as I recall, on the second showing the room was packed and there were people standing.

In my opinion all TNG fans had an excellent weekend, even if they didn't get to see *all* the episodes they wanted to see. Anyone who liked Classic Trek and was working in the dealers' room saw nothing. By the time I was free of the dealers' room and had something to eat, there was no Classic Trek on the video anywhere. This is happening more and more often now and although I have paid the same registration fee as everyone else, it would seem that I get little of my Trek for my fee. On the other hand, I admit that being at a con with friends is the best thing ever, so this is not meant to be an over-the-top heated complaint, just a statement of what is, rather than what should be, and I cannot help but feel that Classic Trek is becoming the poor relation at any con. On the other hand, the BBC at long last repeating Classic Trek may bring in a lot more new faces who love Classic Trek, so perhaps once again the demand will be there. By then, however, we shall also have DS9 which will, of course, require its own video room. I can see that Classic Trek will come even lower and lower on the list. It doesn't bear thinking about.

Years ago, before TNG, it didn't matter if the video room was half empty, but it now appears to be a crime. If a Classic Trek video room is not full, then TNG fans generally seem to believe it should be handed over to TNG. Why? My solution would be to have a very small room with 10 - 15 chairs, an ordinary TV/video and then at least we could not be accused of taking space needed for TNG.

To Maria Nausch - when it comes to Uhura not speaking Klingon, it is not a question of her being a politician. She is a Communications Officer, an expert in her field, and she of all people should be able to

speak the language.

To Valerie P - Thank you for an excellent and understanding article regarding the subject of K/S and why it exists.

To Ann T Robinson - Bless you for admitting you watched ST TFF for the zillionth time. I think that perhaps it could be once more than I have. In any event, I still think stone washed jeans will exist way into the 23rd century and beyond.

To Sharon Lamb - superb, and thanks for saying what I have wanted to say for a long time - and to Kathleen Glancy, just tell me who you do like in Star Trek and I'll sharpen my talons.

To Colin Mackay - actually it is not true that there are no alien authors mentioned in Trek. In *City on the Edge of Forever*, Kirk actually says that the words "Let me help" are recommended over the words "I love you", and when Edith queries it, he says that it was from a classic written by a famous novelist who came from a planet circling the left star in Orion's belt.

Pat Mitchell - Halifax

I always thought the phaser in the Enterprise kitchen was to stun the Klingon Gagh if it got a little too 'fresh'!

Lynne Buckley - Loughborough

Hello to everyone at IDIC, since this is my first letter. Firstly I would like to thank the committee for producing an excellent n/l. I enjoy every section, particularly the Postbag. I am certain the only reason I have become so interested in TNG is due to this section.

I think it is very unfair on ST fans that the BBC won't be showing season 4 of TNG until 1994. I'm lucky that I am able to purchase these episodes, but I know others aren't so fortunate.

I have been very interested in the comments surrounding the SOL III convention. I was there but missed all the controversy, so all I can say is that I had a great time and look forward to going to

another convention soon.

Gratiennne Vandekerkhove - Belgium

To Karen Davies - Does it really matter what the critics say about the 'aging crew' of the Enterprise? Due to the fact that only 79 episodes were made of ST, these movies are our only chance to see the old crew together. I've often asked myself why the critics are making such a fuss about their ages; surely it isn't the only movie with older people. Is it perhaps because they have something against ST in particular, do they feel uncomfortable with the ideals behind it, or do they simply fail to understand why people care about it?

To Maria Nausch - If there are two persons I'd certainly expect to know enough Klingonese to get the Enterprise out of the hot spot I'd say they have to be Spock and Uhura. Spock, because it's only logical to know one's opponent's language and simultaneously learn to get an understanding of the Klingons. Uhura, because she's a highly qualified Communications Officer, which has to be more than just switching some levers or pushing some buttons. Why do all the Klingons speak Federation Standard, and no officer of the Federation repays them the courtesy of speaking Klingonese?

To Jennifer Cobbing - Those Klingons you enjoy being destroyed are people too. They acted and died for what they thought was best for their Empire. Do you actually believe that Kirk or Spock would enjoy the destruction of their enemy? They respected him as a worthy adversary. The destruction of the Klingon Bird of Prey couldn't be avoided. I think that if Kirk could have found another means to stop Chang he would have used it; that I believe is more in his and Spock's line of character. And certainly the enjoyment of one's enemy's death isn't something which makes the characters more Human; it makes them less Human.

Russell Witheyman - Crawley

Now that the 5th season has finished I thought I would comment on the quality of it. I think the 5th season episodes were not as good overall as the 4th season. Episodes like 'New Ground', 'Hero Worship' and 'Cost of Living' dealt with too many family issues I

just don't enjoy, Worf's problems with his son, etc. It was getting too much like a soap opera in places. Obviously the writers have recognised this as they've promised a return to sci-fi story telling first and foremost for the 6th season. Don't get me wrong, I love episodes which deal with the Human condition etc, but not family problems like Alexander having problems in school - it can get a bit boring at times.

Generally the 5th season has been quite good. My personal favourites have to be 'Redemption 2', 'Darmok', 'Conundrum', 'I, Borg', 'Next Phase', and 'Time's Arrow'. Most hyped episodes have to be 'Unification' and 'Cause and Effect', which I think everyone was a little disappointed with, even if you watch it on its own merits it's still quite good. Turkeys of the season have to be 'Perfect Mate' (incredibly boring) and 'Imaginary Friend', which I thought was slightly like a reworking of 'The Child'.

There has also been some speculation as to what Gene would have thought of these last episodes that he was not involved with. People seem to think that TNG will only get worse. I think that episodes like 'The Outcast' and 'I Borg', which were excellent human-interest stories, Gene would have been proud of.

Lastly, could anyone tell me why Gene's name was still listed as executive producer on the end of TNG after he died? *[Janet: There is a lot of pre-production work done on the episodes before they are filmed and it may be that these episodes were in the pipeline before Gene's death.]*

Michael Sadler - Ellesmere Port

Greetings and felicitations. I think it's a really big shame that the proposed episode 'Duelling Qs' has been cancelled. It would have been wonderful to see William Campbell appearing as a Trelane-like character again.

To add more evidence to 'should Wesley Crusher be serving on a Starship?' - has anyone else noticed the mistake in 'Samaritan Snare'? Wesley and Picard leave the ship in Shuttle no.1, but Wesley

announces they are leaving in Shuttle No.2.

Does anyone know Gene Dynarski's secret of youth? He looks the same in '11001001' as Commander Kintaros as he did as the mining chief in 'Mudd's Women'. Also seeing him walk down the corridor with Picard is like watching twins.

To Claire Roberts - I bought my talking Konami Star Trek game from either Index or Argos (sorry, I can't remember which.) However, these shops no longer sell the game. There is an address on the back of the packaging - I don't know if it will help. Hornby Hobbies Ltd., Westwood, Margate, Kent, England. CT9 4JX. Good luck in finding it.

Elena Bond - London

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - re your review of my story 'C'est la Q'. What do you mean, it's impossible for the android Data to perform the unmentionable act in question? Are we not forever being told that he is fully functional? If he can't perform the act in question, this proves he must be machine not being, does it not? Far from being injurious to the character of Data, I've heard on the grapevine Brent Spiner can't wait to play this episode in Data's evolution into Human status. The trouble is US television won't allow anyone born in the USA to portray the act in question on US TV!

If readers would like to know more about this 'evolution' of Data to true Human status, they will have to order 'Make It So 8.' I'm sure Data's fans will also find it extremely funny.

Barbel Schmidt - Ashford, Kent

I was hoping to read in your newsletter that some actors already signed for the 7th or even 8th season. It worries me a bit that nobody did it yet. Already a year ago I heard rumours that Patrick Stewart wants to leave, and I was relieved when I learned that he stays. I like him very much as Captain Picard. Especially 'Best of Both Worlds', 'Darmok' and 'Inner Light' show that he is a great actor, and I would miss him. Nevertheless, I can understand that he wants to do something else for a change. Yes, I completely agree

with Guy Wigmore that in that case Riker should become the Captain.

Unfortunately I heard that Paramount doesn't want to use Shelby again, but I still don't give up hope that they change their minds. They would be a terrific team. Even if not Shelby, it should definitely be a female First Officer this time. We need more women in powerful positions, not only Sela, Lursa and B'Etor, but on the Enterprise. Tasha was killed because Denise Crosby wanted to leave, K'Ehleyr died thanks to Mr. Piller's stupid idea, and to my big regret. Also Ro leaves because Michelle Forbes quit. (Why?) Although I like Beverly, Deanna and Guinan very much, the series needs also a harder female action type as a contrast to them.

It is difficult for me to imagine TNG without Worf and Data, but if they stay I am confident that the series will go on. I hope that the actors are aware that when they leave now there will be little probability that they can come back when the movies start. So far there was no movie that went back in time.

I am not happy about the Trill in DS9. In essence this idea is fascinating, but I don't like how Odan was shown in 'The Host'. I have the script, and in there is a scene that wasn't shown in the episode. Odan explained that the Human bodies they use have no own personality. Only that can't be true, because Beverly talked to Odan's new host at the end of the episode before Odan was implanted, and she wasn't a mindless zombie! Obviously Odan's race can only exist in the body of another intelligent being, and by doing so take over completely. I don't call this symbiosis. This is slavery! Or who would be willing to give up their mind, their self-awareness, for the rest of their life? If that is not explained satisfactorily (I can't imagine how) the choice of the Trill will harm the new series considerably, at least for me.

It was interesting for me to read the comments about 'Ethics'. If you don't look at the 'how' Worf's spine was repaired the episode is excellent, very complex, and gave me much to think about. Especially this episode shows how much the relationships

between the characters have evolved. I like episodes with good, interesting characterisations, and this is certainly one of the best concerning that.

Morag Phillips - Kilmarnock

Of course, everyone will now be aware that Auntie Beeb is showing Classic Trek in the old TNG slot on BBC2. Who knows whether or not they will keep their word to show all of the Classic episodes, but all credit must go to them for showing the original pilot. I hadn't seen 'The Cage' before, and had no idea just how different from established Trek it would be. Or conversely, how alike it would be. Spock, of course, was the biggest shock. Leonard Nimoy obviously had not decided quite how to portray our favourite Vulcan, but at the same time you could see the promise that prompted Gene Roddenberry to rebel against the network and retain the character - thank heavens! Captain Christopher Pike was everything that a good Starship Captain should be, and wasn't it great to see a woman in a senior position in the Bridge? Despite my initial reservations, about 20 minutes into the story I was hooked. Yes, the effects were rather strange (the stars moving through the bridge when the Enterprise was in warp), the direction and the sound effects were vastly different from those we would become used to later, and the characters unfamiliar, but there was no doubt that this was Star Trek, and what's more, it was a terrific story!

On the subject of DS9, I remember that when TNG was in the pipeline being horrified by the idea that 'they' were trying to remake a legend. I thought that it would be a pale shadow of what had gone before, or that it would betray the ideals inherent in Classic Trek. How wrong I was! TNG has now become my favourite Trek, and who knows, perhaps in a few years DS9 will be so high in my regard. So I'm not going to make the same mistake again. I'm going to wait until I've seen quite a few episodes before I make any judgement. Hopefully that won't be so far in the future if the Away Team are as prompt with the new series as they are with TNG episodes.

Lloyd Lewis - Bridgend, Mid-Glamorgan

Anyone in South Wales for a break, holiday, business etc., please give me a ring on 0656 724519 for a natter, drink, whatever.

I now have the complete DC Star Trek comics - just thought I'd boast about that. Anyone who knows (a source?) for Marvel issues 17 and 18, PLEASE contact me. I'm also desperate to get hold of Aliens comic issues 1, 2 and 3. If anyone works for Nostalgia & Comics in Birmingham, or goes in there, could you please ask them why they haven't sent me any goods? cashed my cheque? or answered my follow-up letter?

Thank you to Andromeda (again) and Books Nippon for their inspired service.

The layout of Newsletter 23 appeared to be a great deal crisper and cleaner - congrats.

BSFR have had an instance of a member not renewing their subscription as a protest against their printing 'humorous' comments in the original cast's increasing ages. I don't object to people taking the p**s out of my age - I just wait until I get home and have a good cry. I know that this subject has been mentioned before, but is the consensus that as long as the comments are not vindictive, or if they are quotes and reported as such, then they're okay, or should we ignore the subject?

I was puzzling how Jimmy Doohan could appear in TNG without time travel or enough latex to fit out a sex shop. I mentioned it to Julie; the holodeck, she opined. I hate a smart-ass!

As somebody who has been critically ill (I know I'm not the only one, this is just my opinion) I would much prefer Bev's approach. Personally I was scared half to death anyway, and Pulaski telling me the truth would have finished me off!

To Marysia Kolodziej - I've just checked out both the book and the film. Spock places his katra in McCoy's mind after lowering him to the floor in the film, but in the book, after lowering McCoy to the floor

Spock immediately enters the chamber where he dies. As the book states that it is a novelisation of the film, this is a little strange. Suggestions explaining this anomaly, please, on a postcard and I will provide a prize for the most apt. (Lloyd Lewis, 17 Alma Terrace, Abercynffig, Bridgend, Mid. Glam. CF32 9AL)

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - Could you please explain your surname's origins?

Even I, thick as I am, realise that NP, as in FSNP, stands for nerve pinch, but I'm getting a headache figuring out FS. First Officer Spock? Please let me in on it. [Ed - I understand it's 'Famous Spock Nerve Pinch'.]

Does anyone know why *anyone* names their cats? The damn animals only come to the sound of a can-opener.

To Gaile Wood - fertile inter-species offspring are perhaps created by the manipulation of genetic material? You'd just better pray that your embryonic surgeon hasn't got an evil sense of humour.

To Karen MacGarvie - Having real books is an idiosyncrasy, but it is not (as I believe you intended to say) an anachronism. People today collect antiques and *objects d'art* for a variety of reasons, and if you are a bibliophile you will understand that nothing will ever compare with the weight, feel, smell and sheer physical presence of a real book. Even if you need antique glasses to read it! And in my case, someone to explain the big words!

To John W. Goss - Has anyone ever said that wedding vows are 'sacred' in the 24th century? Does marriage as it is idealised today exist in the 24th century?

To Paul Hulford - Mrs Spock couldn't go because she had a job back home? Obviously as ambassador *par excellence* Spock's first duty on Romulus should have been the negotiating of a creche facility.

To Christine Snow and everyone else who mentioned it - re failure of Universal Translator ref Klingonese in ST VI. Were the computers giving trouble at the time? Or was that only in the novelisation?

To Kirstie Jordan - hope you're better. Tasha was sent back into the past *after* having done her stint with the 'D'. So as she had not appeared in their records as having mysteriously appeared 22 years before, it was fair to assume that she'd snuffed it on the 'C'. Is there anyone out there who doesn't yet know that this ain't so?

Helen - thanks for the write-ups. Until I get to the cons I'm more than happy to read your reports. Ref Klingon longevity, I was under the impression from somewhere that their life span was about two score years and that's your lot. Please, anyone who knows better advise me.

Reet war kid. A ceilidh is not country dancing! Country dancing is a ceilidh. The Welsh for ceilidh is twmpath, which if you've ever been to one you'll agree is far more onomatopoeic.

Lee Sanson 'Good Conventioneering' - Excellent, apart from the fact that I like the meaningless chat (like my letters.) It's articles like this that make the IDIC subscription so well worth paying. More of you out there - Yes, you! - put pen to paper. NOW!

Chris Blenkarn - Please feel free to give me a kicking when next we meet. My response was deliberately well OTT, but was edited down because I'm so choppsy, and came out looking a little tetchy. I'll send you a copy of what I writ via Janet. But please, some of my best friends are below-average gerbils!

Rebekah Owens - Birmingham

Many thanks for N/L 23 which I enjoyed reading along with the consistently high standard of presentation (ten out of ten, grade A, gold star and three house points!)

To Lee Sansome - you raised some very good points regarding 'good conventioneering' but I feel that, once again, mention has been made of a 'sad rift' between those fans who want to watch videos and those who attend 'mainly for social reasons'. In my opinion, most fans attend to do both. I was disappointed when the Saturday episodes were cancelled, as were several of

my friends, but we certainly did not cause or join in any 'mob behaviour' as a result. I feel that the onus is always on the fans and that a small minority have made the rest of us look like brawling hooligans. Having recommended SOL III to my sister Emma and her boyfriend Steven, they both registered for one day hoping to catch one or two episodes along with joining in the other activities. They were both acutely disappointed at the cancellation of episodes at a moment's notice to be told later on that they would be screened on Monday when they would not be at the con! As Karen Davis has pointed out, one episode was cancelled in favour of a special edition of Star Trek VI, the full version of which had already been shown and Emma and Steven had already seen.

Stewards are certainly not paid in cash but they are paid in kind. At SOL III I found the majority helpful, polite and informative and behaved as such in return. Unfortunately, when you are verbally abused for no reason whatsoever you are entitled to get angry. I did not 'verbally abuse' this particular steward in return as I also agree that 'courtesy costs nothing'. I did not 'make demands' or 'be obnoxious' feeling that it is not my place to do so as I had not volunteered to be a steward myself.

The content of these paragraphs is negative, I agree, but I strongly object to reading articles that imply we are a bunch of naughty children because a SMALL minority aired their grievances in a more forceful manner.

To Guy Wigmore - 'have a less talented actor as Captain'?! Noooooo! Patrick Stewart is PERFECT for the role of Picard! (Swoon! Faint!)

Lorna Elliott - Stevenage

I read the article in N/L 23 on the subject of hurt/comfort stories and thought it was great. I myself am a fan of this type of story, and like Kay and probably hundreds of others, was thought to be slightly mad at the idea of enjoying fiction in which Kirk, Spock or McCoy are injured.

Over the years that I have been a fan of

Star Trek, in particular Classic Trek, I have enjoyed the way in which the relationships between the characters has developed. Their loyalty to one another is undying and is best observed when one of them is thought to be in danger or injured.

Spock and Kirk share a special relationship which is fully developed when you read fan fiction. McCoy, on the other hand, has only known Spock since serving on the Enterprise. The long relationship he himself has with Kirk has allowed him to see a side of Spock which would have otherwise remained unseen. His professional concern for their well-being adds an extra ingredient that makes reading and writing h/c stories so enjoyable.

I am trying to write my first h/c story and maybe one day it will be good enough to submit for publication; in the meantime, all you h/c writers out there keep up the good work. And on the subject of good work, three questions.

1. Does anyone know of any h/c stories that I can read apart from those that Kay wrote? (I've read all of Kay's and I'm desperate to find more of the same.)

2. Do any of our American members know whether Sandy Zeir has produced a successor to Mind Meld 6, as according to her notes in MM6 there was some doubt?

3. Are there any good h/c stories that are available from across the pond?

[Janet: If you are a Kirk fan I can recommend anything by Gimna LaCroix - she is my favourite writer. Drop me a line and I'll try and make some other recommendations - in return please let me see any story you write.]

Linda Wood - Glasgow

Firstly to Valerie, who commented on the origins of the K/S bond brother concept. I'm quite sure she is aware of the fact that the bond brother stories started after Gene Roddenberry's novelisation of ST-TMP, when he referred in a footnote to the fact that Kirk and Spock were "Thy'la", ie "Vulcan" for bond brothers, as is the warrior bond. However, it's quite easy to see how writers latched on to this concept, as Kirk and Spock

in Classic Trek were frequently seen to communicate by a glance or touch on the arm with no words spoken. If Spock touched Kirk it could be assumed that there was telepathic contact, and the idea of a bonded presence in each other's consciousness is very appealing, as it was already shown to exist between Spock and T'Pol in the "marriage bond" in *Amok Time*. It is somehow very comforting to know that one will always be in mental contact with a loved one of either sex, and I have been known to exploit the concept myself on one or two occasions!

Another reader enquired about how LN came to be on *The Bangles* video of *Going Down to Liverpool*. Carol Davis will be able to elaborate on this, but I gather that Leonard's son Adam knew one of the girls in the group, and two-and-two were put together!

Jennifer Cobbing - London

I'm not a great fan of hurt/comfort but certainly don't mind some appearing in a zine. I am not, however, as great a fan as my good friend Kay Stagg. I think Kay has hit the nail on the head when she suggests it's part of the maternal instinct. Kay is a born mother - why else is her home always full of children and animals? I, on the other hand, am not blessed with maternal instincts in such great quantities and believe that's one good reason why I'm not that keen on h/c. I also think that after 20 years of nursing I am unable to put it into a fantasy situation. I can't cope with the inaccurate medical care and violence in some stories - and some of the things Kirk is put through would kill him long before he reached sickbay. Kay did not mention that she dislikes h/c that goes too far and kills off one or more of the main characters - a weird thing to do and something I find quite unnecessary, too. But whatever I think, I see no reason why lovers of h/c should be criticised for it - each to his own.

Talking of which - I liked Chris Blenkarn's article *Why Are We Writing?* We all have the right to like who we want and I see no point in writing snide remarks for newsletters for no reason other than self-gratification. Nasty remarks in newspapers have no effect on me at all - after all, the same

comments are repeated again and again. Thanks to Sharon Lamb and Janet Quarton for sticking up for Kirk.

I don't agree that Spock's forced mind meld with Valeris is out of character. Spock has proved in the past, if not so vehemently, that his loyalties lie with Starfleet, the Federation and Captain Kirk. Spock is half Human and as the films have progressed he has admitted more often that his Human half exists. Why shouldn't he reach the point where he reacts with his Human side when the things he values most are threatened?

To Karen McGarvie - being attractive does seem to be a qualification for a commission. I noticed in ST:TUC that the crew working in the kitchen weren't the usual run of the mill Hollywood types. It seems that if you don't have the good fortune to be born attractive it's the galley for life! And some of the beauty is fake - have you noticed the crewwoman in ST:TUC who has a dent in her uniform? Obviously this actress doesn't have a big enough bust and the uniform was built accordingly. One of the reasons I love Colm Meaney is that he doesn't have the standard good looks - and yet has become a popular regular in TNG.

Stephen Shaw's comment about the BBC - "their corporate hatred of SF is too deep" is the most accurate description of the Beeb that I've had.

Lesley Arrowsmith - Cusop, Herts

I saw the Radio Times right across the shop, and left my husband Allen wondering where I'd disappeared to. There it was, in full colour, a picture of Kirk and Spock I hadn't seen before, and inside - *The Cage*! But how to see it? Not only do we work in the evenings, cooking dinner for our employers, but we do not possess a TV. (This has not always been the case. How else could I be a Trek fan?)

I took my news to Chas, the traveller who lives in a caravan in the orchard, also a Trek fan. "No problem," he said. "My mate Jim's got a telly. We can all go down to his house together, and then you and Allen can nip home to cook dinner." It took a day or so

to persuade Allen this was feasible, but on Wednesday we drove down to Jim's and settled round the telly, with Jim's little boy George wandering in and out.

"Spock's shouting a bit, isn't he?" said Chas, after a while, and after that the comments really started. "George, look at the men with bums on their heads," said Jim, pointing to the Talosians. "Monster," said George obligingly, pointing at Captain Pike. "Bit rude, some of this," said Sarah, Chas's girlfriend, "specially for the sixties." We all giggled through Vina's dance. Meanwhile, back on the planet surface: "What's she doing shouting up at them? Use the communicator, woman," said Chas.

Later, Spock's line, "The women!" brought the house down, and Vina's "Let me finish" had us spluttering with mirth. It was almost as good as watching it at a con. The only quibble they had was that the ending was a bit weak, but they all liked Number One. ("She often has fantasies concerning you." "Yeah.") and Allen quite fancied Yeoman Colt. Spock they found hilarious, but they liked Pike as Captain. ("Stared off romantically into the middle distance a lot." "Well, he's got the eyes for it.") Next week? We'll be there!

Ann McMillan - Glasgow

This is the first time I have written to IDIC on any level, but I was at the Star Trek convention in Glasgow and I had a fantastic weekend; now I've been asked to write about it, but how do you write about a perfect weekend spent enjoying yourself? Perhaps I should explain - I am on the editorial committee of our own local newspaper; when our editor found out I was at the convention he asked me if I'd write an article about it so I said yes. I didn't know what I'd let myself in for. It was supposed to be a short article, but so much happened and with so many things to see, it is now over 10 pages and I can still think of many things that occurred at the convention. I'm writing to thank you all for the coverage you gave it in the current issue of IDIC.

I hope it will not be too long before you have enough to train another guide dog for

the blind - the one inside the N/L was lovely.

I note on P 15 a reference was made about Sarek and Picard meeting at 'his son's wedding'. Surely in ST:TNG, if Ambassador Sarek had married again, could he not have a son from his new marriage?

Kathleen Glancy - Edinburgh

To Marysia Kolodziej - your theory on why TV writers have so many single fathers is charitable, and may be quite accurate in anything written *today*. In the past, however, it was rather more likely to be so that the hero could be shown in sentimental hero-dispenses-folksy-wisdom, male-bonding scenes with his son (and Gloria Fry is right, it was always son or sons) without the inconvenience of a wife to prevent him from availing himself of the crumpet of the week. And to Matthew Conway, it was memories of many shows of that kind that caused my faint disgust on hearing that the lead in DS9 would be a single father. You are quite right, if I'd been going by Trek alone the single mother has the balance - but I wasn't, I was thinking of all sort of genres, and feared DS9 might return to the bad old days. I *hope* not, and am encouraged by the (fairly) recent Western series Paradise. The hero of that is a surrogate 'father', a professional gunfighter who suddenly inherited his dead, previously widowed, sister's family, but I find it enjoyable because the children are not all male, he is shown learning as much from them as they from him, and rather than crumpet of the week he has an ongoing and evolving relationship with a refreshingly strong young woman. I hope the writers of DS9 do as well by *their* hero. [Janet: I liked the first few seasons of Bonanza which I was able to see, especially the ones with Adam. I like father figures and loved Lorne Green.]

To Bettina Rackel - Jake Cardigan is in his 30s. That is the only reason I said he was drawn 'younger, of course' than William Shatner. He is younger, or would be if he wasn't fictional. Your comparison with John Wayne is interesting. Though he made Westerns to the end, he did not play the same character. (Well, all right, he *did* but they weren't supposed to be the same *person*.) Hence he would evolve from being The

Ringo Kid to being an old cowboy/gunfighter acting as mentor to young characters. This avenue is not really open to the Classic Trek cast, as I'm sure there would be fan resistance if any of them took back seats to newcomers, yet their advancing age generates Press mockery.

Janet, I've decided that the best way to make my position on your Kirk-bonkers clear is to write a poem in praise of them. I do realise they weren't all necessarily set on planets, but *you* try finding a rhyme for Janet.

JANET'S KIRK-BONKERS

(in affectionate memory)

Many years ago
When all of us were younger
Janet said "I know
The tales for which I hunger."

Many friends had she
Many zines she had too
"Borrow zines from me?
Yes, if this you first do -

"Write a story, mate;
Call it a Kirk-bonker *
He must suffer great
Pain, but still must conquer.

"And McCoy and Spock
Over him must anguish,
After which in shock
In Sickbay he must languish.

"There he will get well
As they leave the planet.
That's the tale to tell
To please me," said Janet.

They brought out a zine
Of the tales her friends told.
H/C fans, it's seen
Are legion, for the zine sold.

Even I bought one,
Really couldn't avoid it,
And, all said and done,
Really quite enjoyed it.

* For you youths yet green

I now hasten to say
'Bonk' did not mean then
What it does in this day.

To Sharon Lamb - feel better now?
Since I thought I'd *given* my reasons for disliking some aspects of Kirk's character, I don't quite see why you say "for what reason I've no idea" over the matter. Oddly enough, Kay Stagg has very similar reasons for loving him, though if I understand her well-reasoned "Why Hurt/Comfort" correctly (forgive me if I don't, Kay) she might not want a man with his traits in real life although he is her fantasy hero. This is Diversity in action. I don't believe you need to adore every character to like Star Trek - to use Kay's analogy, Scarlett O'Hara is a *very* unsympathetic character without half of Kirk's redeeming good qualities, greedy cruel and selfish, yet *Gone With the Wind* is one of the most popular films ever.

I see Kirk as a man with many good qualities *and* some very serious flaws in his character, but one who is always interesting. I'm not always 'agin' him - for example, I'm with those who feel his sudden racism in ST VI is a violation of his character. Racism and the sort of irrationalism that would blame all Klingons for what one group did are *not* amongst his faults. He can surely be pardoned for saying "Klinton bastards" in the immediate shock of David's death, but even while still in shock he tried to bring Kruge in alive (for trial, presumably) and only killed him when left with no other choice except dying with him. He respected Kang and Kor as the men of integrity, even if their standards were different, that they were. There can be no doubt he got bent out of shape to fit the plot.

To Christine Snow - I recommend that you get hold of the graphic novel *Debt of Honour*. I think you'd *really* like the Prologue and Epilogue. The bit in between is not bad either. [*Ed - this, donated by Kathleen, will be a prize in a later raffle.*]

Lee Sansome - Tamworth

To Jennifer Cobbing - thank you for making me feel young! I'll take your word for Route 66 or Laramie being the first buddy

series, as I can honestly say that both were before my time! Since this is a rare occurrence these days, I'm full of gratitude and do *not* wish to know if you are actually younger than me and only caught said series on re-runs. Please leave me in blissful ignorance!

To Guy Wigmore - I looked at the calendar after I'd read your letter, convinced it must be April 1st. When I discovered it wasn't, I decided there would be an awful lot of people out there who would like to lynch you - and I'm one of them!

Criticise the scripting of the Picard character all you like - that's fair game - but *please*, how can you accuse Patrick Stewart of strolling through his episodes? "Couldn't care less"?! Are we talking about the same man? Have you actually watched *Family*, where Picard breaks down as he tells Robert how he tried to resist the Borg? Or *Suddenly Human* as he struggles to overcome his feelings of inadequacy in order to help Jono? Did you miss the scene in *Final Mission* where Picard tells Wesley how he envies him, because for Wesley the adventure is just beginning? And could someone who couldn't care less have created that magic storytelling scene in *Darmok*? These are only a few examples of how much Patrick has brought to his role in the last two seasons, despite a lack of good 'Picard episodes' during most of season 5.

And as for "monotonous delivery of his lines" - well, words fail me! It's pretty much universally accepted that Patrick Stewart has one of the finest voices in the business and that he uses it to full effect whatever the situation - that's why he is in such demand for voice-overs. No, this is not Shakespeare; no, Picard's not the most challenging role Patrick's ever had, but the man is a consummate professional who gives his all to every part he plays, whether it be classical theatre or a cornflake advert.

You cannot judge the skill of an actor's delivery by comparing one character with another. To compare Michael Dorn's delivery as Worf to Patrick Stewart's as Picard is to completely miss the point. Worf is an aggressive, emotional, animalistic personality

and Dorn's 'relish' of dramatically delivering his lines is a reflection of those character traits. Patrick Stewart cannot bluster his way through his part - his delivery must reflect the reserved, controlled and intellectual nature of Picard's character. That the two differ has nothing to do with 'strolling' and everything to do with interpretation.

And while we are on the subject of your unsung actors, I don't think Jonathan Frakes would be overjoyed to hear himself referred to as a 'less talented actor' who should be given a shot at the lead role because he 'tries harder'!

On reflection, I don't see how you can justify your criticisms of Patrick Stewart, and I've decided the only explanation for your point of view is that you prefer the HAM School of Acting. If this is the case, may I suggest that you forego TNG altogether and rent a few episodes of *Lost in Space*? It should be right at your street!

Nicole Comtet - Boussy St Antoine, France

I like the new presentation very much; the print is much more legible than the previous one. Great improvement and congratulations. I enjoyed N/L 23 very much, as usual - in particular the article by Chris Blenkarn, whose opinion I thoroughly agree with.

Anyone who wants some Star Trek notepaper can also apply to Lynne Collins of STAG and Bettina Rackel of Outpost. Both provide very handsome notepaper with pictures or drawings of the Classic Trek characters.

To Karen McGarvie - In ST VI the Klingon shot down by Scotty in Camp Khitomer has red blood because he is not a Klingon but a Human; he is a Starfleet officer, an accomplice of Admiral Cartwright, Chang and Co. This is made clear in the director's cut which was shown at SOL III. Hopefully CIC will release the full version.

To Kathleen Glancy - about Spock's ears in ST VI. I read that Leonard had them moulded specially from the original model he still keeps from the series, but something

must have gone wrong during fabrication. Your explanation that Spock can move his ears at will prompts me to suggest that you read *The Essays of Aquarius* by Marion Van Der Voort (ScoTPress). The three main characters have much in common with Kirk, Spock and McCoy and the First Officer is a delightful person, an alien who expresses his emotions by moving his ears in all directions. "Essays" is a very good zine, well worth the reading although it is not Star Trek.

Why all the fuss about a galley on the Enterprise? Of course there is a galley and an Officers' Mess. Take Mr Scott's Guide to the Enterprise, for instance. On B-C decks, back of the Officers' Lounge and turbolift shafts, there is, for all to see, a kitchen area and on either side, a dining area as well. That makes sense, doesn't it? That is where Christine Chapel simmers plomeek soup or any other Cordon Bleu cooks his or her favourite dish. Taste for good food is not entirely lost, I am sure, in the 23rd century. Another scene giving rise to controversy is the fact that the Bridge crew does not speak Klingonese and must use dictionaries. Books have not been banned in the 23rd century - witness Samuel Cogley's library; his gift of a book to Kirk; Spock's gift of *A Tale of Two Cities*... Why should they speak Klingonese? They have the universal translator at their disposal and even the Klingons speak standard and quote Shakespeare without rhyme or reason. Starfleet Intelligence Agents who have to go behind the lines probably do, but Uhura and her shipmates are not required to learn the enemy language since they do not have to go beyond the Neutral Zone... normally. And then, when for the first time they have to sneak into Klingon territory, what happens? They cannot use the universal translator because it would be detected by the Klingons who man the Outpost. That is what Chekov states clearly while they are all doing their 'mental legerdemain' as Spock has put it. Just as well there are dictionaries on the Enterprise!

Much has been said about the disagreement between Kirk and Spock at the beginning of ST VI. This happens between the best of friends, and anyway the misunderstanding did not last; witness that

knowing glance they exchange when Valeris makes that impertinent remark about departure procedures. Later, Kirk does not doubt that they will be rescued, just as Spock is certain his Captain will be actively preparing to escape. Once again we see how much the original crew care for each other, even Sulu, away on another ship. As before in time of crisis, they are present, ready for action, and that is what makes this crew, this cast, so dear to us. If there is to be a ST VII, let it be with our inimitable original cast, and please, no mix up with TNG!

Allison Blandford - London

So what? I called William Shatner a "great author" and as Janet put it, I used this term lightheartedly. Both his books (*Tek War* and *Tek Lords*) were both enjoyable and kept me reading. I hope that I was not totally misunderstood and did not offend anyone. I am eagerly looking forward to the arrival of *Tek Lab* in hardback. Can anyone tell me when I can get my hands on this precious book? The waiting is driving me up the wall.

Am I being paranoid and seeing things, or is Marcy Lafferty, wife of William Shatner, always appearing with him? I collect T J Hooker episodes and she has appeared in no fewer than 3 episodes; as Chief DiFalco in *ST:TMP*; and also appeared in *Crash of Flight 401* and *Airplane II*! Does anyone know of any other programme or film where both have starred together? [*Janet: I can't help you with Bill and Marcy, but have you ever noticed that Majel appears in all Gene's productions?*]

John Stubley, Lincolnshire

I really enjoyed N/L 23. Well worth the wait, especially with the articles by Chris Blenkarn and Eddie Yau. Chris' article was very thought provoking and Eddie deserves the last word in the "Kirk's Reaction" argument in S VI.

To Janet Quarton - I disagree strongly with your view that the novelisation of TUC is not an acceptable source for explaining Kirk's outburst in the film. It does not matter whether it is 'real Star Trek' or not - it provides a valid explanation for some of the events in the film. Just because the author

didn't stick word for word with the script, and added bits, it doesn't mean it didn't (won't?) happen. Who knows - the Kudao massacre may have 'really happened'. Anyway, I think the novel and the film are one of the same. Small discrepancies are just a result of different people recording different events - like eyewitnesses remembering an accident. To get the whole picture, you must refer to *all* the accounts, like the police do.

To Jill Wadsley - Many thanks for your invitation. It really cheered me up. I'm afraid that Lincoln may be 'just up the road' but in Lincolnshire if you haven't a car, 'just up the road' is a long cycle ride away! Anyway, I'm already a member of my favourite local fan club - IDIC!

To Jennifer Cobbing - the thing about that battle scene in TUC is the way Christopher Plummer played Chang. His obvious delight in the Enterprise's predicament was wonderfully played, so that he was alienating the audience from his cause and made them hope he got his 'just deserts'. I also love his Shakespearian quotations - the "...let slip the dogs of war!" and all that. I don't really like the Bard's work, but the odd quote can often be used to great effect.

To the committee - Careful! Don't encourage us to write any more. You might get more than you bargained for! *[We did!!!]*

Peter Walsh - Nottinghamshire

The boxed set of 3 CDs (The Cage, Where No Man Has Gone Before, Encounter at farpoint, The Doomsday Machine and Amok Time) mentioned by Paul Hulford at only £12.95 sounds a very good bargain. The same boxed set is also for sale at Nottingham's Virgin store for £22.99. I cannot understand why there is such a large price difference between Virgin in London and Virgin in Nottingham (unless of course London has a sale on!)

To Claire Roberts - concerning the Konami Star Trek game; they sell it at the Co-op store in the Broadmarsh Centre in Nottingham, £12.99. Have you tried any Co-ops in your area? I wish you luck.

Marion Pritchard - Plymouth

I have been following the discussions about bits and pieces in various films and TV episodes, and sometimes I wonder why some people watch those things. Yes, there are people at Paramount who are paid good money to make sure there are no continuity errors, and I do get annoyed when something of major importance or blatantly obvious is wrong. Is it really that important whether this stripe or that bit of colour or that knob is not right? I wonder whether some people just watch to find errors, or to sit in a group (as I have seen) to boast how many mistakes they have spotted. Where is the pure enjoyment then?

With apologies to Kirstie Jordan - the mind meld in ST VI. I do agree that a film must stand on its own feet, as not everyone would go through the trouble to read the book as well. The mind meld as seen in the film seems uncharacteristic for the Spock we know, but is probably the result of a tense situation where vital peace plans are at stake and Spock's 250% sense of duty to the Federation. That is my theory - I think this is one of the situations where it is left to the individual to find his/her own explanation, as none was offered in the film other than the necessity for quick action.

Videos at cons - I do agree with the unhappy person who complained about the video room being hijacked. I find this trend disturbing. Why do we go to cons? Surely not to watch videos day and night only, but also to meet like-minded people and talk to them.

To Gloria Fry - I don't agree with you that women got a better deal in Classic Trek. There may have been some outstanding female characters like the ones you mention, but they were few and far between. In most episodes you had the scenario: woman sees Captain, woman falls in love with Captain, Captain for some reason or other finds each particular romance impossible, unrealistic or there is something that prevents woman from fulfilling romance. The women were hired for their looks, not their acting talent. There are not many episodes where Uhura got to do anything important. In TNG I find the situation little changed. Whenever there was

a good strong female character she either disappeared (Shelby) or was killed (K'Ehleyr). I think Lt. Ro was introduced to add a bit of spice to the Bridge as things got a bit too cosy, and as we know she is leaving the series.

To Ann Peters - well said. Men in many cases do not like clever women. Often women were pictured more stupid than men because otherwise the hero might feel insecure or his authority threatened. I am not saying that all men are more stupid than women or the other way round, but I don't think the characterisation of silly women is a coincidence - are not more TV programmes produced by men? The requirements for grammar school entry here in Plymouth are lower for boys than for girls. I wonder why...

To Dave Smith - come and see me and my hubby at T'Kon. We'll be in the dealers' room some of the time, selling my sister in law's wonderful jewellery and dragons and things. We look forward to meeting you.

To Martin Stahl - Thanks for your letter, will reply when I have more time. I too found some bits in Ethics a bit on the silly side. The topic itself is a good one - how far can you take research and risk people's lives in order to make progress and to save others. When we look at research with drugs and the fact that Human guinea pigs are paid to try them out (I have met some people like that) it makes me shudder and wonder what ethics apply there.

Matthew Conway - Lambourn, Berks

To Lorna Elliott - If you're interested in following the voyages of Captain Hikaru Sulu of the USS Excelsior, you could do worse than keeping an eye out for issues 35 and onward of DC Comics' current series with the Classic crew, chronicling exactly that. And for anyone who thinks that comics are for children, I would point out that a series that can count Peter David and Howard Weinstein as its regular writers (and Michael Jan Friedman for the ST:TNB title) is going to attract my attention all the time.

To Marysia Kolodziej - I would imagine that by 'the ability to reproduce', biologists are referring to a species as a whole,

not just to specific individuals. Therefore, while a particular man or woman may be sterile and unable to have children, the Human race as a whole certainly seems to have no problems with the issue, and that would be enough to classify even a sterile person as 'alive'.

To Karen Davies - as I recall, comments about 'warp-powered zimmer frames' were rampant in the press just before the release of ST VI: The Undiscovered Country, but they didn't stop those same reporters from giving the film rave reviews both here and across the pond in the USA. Besides, far from inviting ridicule, Star Trek has always been able to look at itself with tongue firmly in cheek ("Once again we've saved civilisation as we know it.") and the characters have never tried to hide the advance of the years (eg Kirk's midlife crisis in Star Trek II:TWOK).

To Baerbel Schmidt - You may believe the TNG crew to be markedly different ('better' is a personal opinion) from their Classic counterparts, but the similarities are striking, especially if you look at the proposed Star Trek II TV series. Picard represents what would have been a more mature and reflective Kirk; Riker equates to the youthful Commander Decker seen in ST:TMP; Data is the equivalent of Xon, the wholly Vulcan replacement for Spock who, like Data, would have embarked on a voyage of emotional discovery; Yar, somewhat young and inexperienced, is an obvious replacement for Security Chief Chekov; La Forge, originally the new Sulu, has become the latest protegee of Chief Engineer Scott; Beverly Crusher follows on from Dr. McCoy; and Troi has inherited the powers formerly attributed to Lt. Ilia. The closeness of these relationships can be seen in the way both The Child and Devil's Due, written as ST II scripts, fitted so easily into the TNG universe with only relatively minor changes. Indeed, Worf and Wesley are the only completely new characters to have been added, but they were simply not possible in the late 1970s; after all, can you picture a Klingon or a child aboard a starship commanded by Captain James T Kirk?

To Bettina Rackel - Patrick Stewart is

52 years old, not all that much younger than William Shatner (61 if I recall correctly). As you say, however, nobody says that he's too old to command the Enterprise-D; perhaps it's the fact that not everyone around him is the same age!

To James Mills - in view of the above, Picard does seem to have been a Starfleet Captain since an extraordinarily young age, doesn't he!

To James Brand - I think you miss the point about Star Trek's tackling of sensitive issues. Even the Classic series had to make concessions to public morals, with the result that controversies had to be handled in allegorical ways (eg racism in *Let That Be Your Last Battlefield*, the Vietnam War in *A Private Little War*, and so on). TNG is certainly no different in this practice (eg homosexuality in *The Outcast*, rape in *Violations*, etc), and is probably handling more sensitive subjects than ever. To claim that the new series "falls down in comparison" with the old is to do it, and the material that it has attempted to portray, a grave disservice.

Anita Deagle - Leeds

I have noticed more than one advert asking for a copy of Leonard Nimoy's book *I Am Not Spock*. For those who want a new copy and are willing to wait for its arrival from the US, there are still copies to be had from Intergalactic Trading Co Inc, PO Box 1516, Longwood, Florida 32750, USA. My copy has just arrived. For those people who do not necessarily want to own the book but would like to read it, the public library is the answer. It probably won't be on the shelf, but can be requested for just a few pence (my library charges 50p per book); as I work in a library I do know that the British Lending Division at Boston Spa has a copy. You may have a short wait but you will get the book.

Ann T Robertson - Blantyre, Glasgow

To Gloria Fry - Scott Bakula (Sam Beckett) in Starfleet uniform - Wow! Now there's something to switch the telly on for.

Lisa Dearnley-Davison - Reading

To Lee Sansome who wrote the article *Good Conventioneering* in N/L 23 - I was at

the recent SOL III convention too, and I also had a brilliant weekend. Guy Vardaman and Richard Arnold are the best speakers I've come across (but then this was only my second convention!). While I don't really know many people on the convention circuit I still managed to pluck up courage to speak to a few of those that I managed to end up sitting next to on a number of occasions.

I also bring this up, for the same reasons as you. There is a rift developing and I did happen to see it at SOL III. However, the majority of fans were like myself... a person who wanted to meet new friends, talk about Trek and cram as much into the weekend as possible. It just so happened that most of the really good videos were shown at stupid times. Showing *Redemption* Parts 1 & 2 at the same time as one of the fancy dress parties had to be the daftest idea of the whole convention. So many people had seen part 1 and not part 2 that it resulted in a queue for part 2 that went out of the video rooms and down the stairs to the ground floor. I hate to say it, but which do you think was more popular?

The main reason for writing this letter is to find out if anyone saw and therefore remembers a film on TV about 2 - 3 months ago. The film was about several humanoid aliens being discovered frozen (dead?) in space - brought back to London where they awaken and cause major havoc turning people into crazed 'vampires'. The centre of London is shut down and a scientist and an ordinary person with psychic abilities track one of the aliens across the south. They turn up in a nut house having discovered that one of the aliens has passed her essence (soul?) onto someone working there. It turns out to be a doctor in charge, who is none other than Patrick Stewart, who then meets a rather gory death in a helicopter. Does anyone out there remember the name of the film?

Stephen Shaw - Stockport, Cheshire

In N/L 23 I mentioned a script, *The Stars of Sargasso* by D C Fontana. At Rec Con she indicated that she had never heard of it! Please delete her name from the reference. We are however still left with a well written, well presented script with a good story - who

wrote it? The script is marked "FIRST DRAFT April 9 1967, Prod No. 5149, Series created by Gene Roddenberry, Desilu Productions Inc." It is also clearly marked "teleplay by D C Fontana". Does anyone out there have any data on this item? [Janet: *Assuming the script is authentic Dorothy Fontana may well have done the teleplay and not remembered it. After all it was a long time ago and she probably did a lot of teleplays. The fact that the author's name was not on the script is not unusual as often more than one person has input into a script and the final credits are not decided till the script is filmed.*]

To Cathy Halford - George is 8... and his tribble is a 25th anniversary product from Starstruck. It is marked "Three years up" and has long, very fine acrylic hair. It does not come out in handfuls, but is certainly of a variety to be kept away from the youngest. There is also the question of a 9 volt battery held in by velcro - useful in a hairy creature... the hair tends to get caught in the hooks...

BBC - the "charter" under which they operate is due for renewal soon. If you think your licence money is being well spent, or if you think it could be better spent - perhaps by putting on popular programmes at proper times! - why not let your MP know your feelings. The BBC won't pay any attention to you!

Starlog offer remarkably good subscription rates to overseas subscribers, and it can be cheaper than buying retail. They also publish the Next Generation magazine, which is published 'per season' - the first five seasons each had 4 magazines but for the 6th season they are to produce 5 magazines at a subscription price to the UK of \$40.

To Jill Wadsley - the 3rd season blooper recording has now appeared in Star Tech's catalogue either on record or tape at \$9. Thanks for the info.

To Guy Wigmore - borrow, buy or otherwise view the SF film (on video) *Lifeforce*, which is a cross between *Dracula* and *Quatermass 4* (with heavy leanings on *Quatermass*). You will enjoy the 'performance' by Patrick Stewart, especially the last few minutes we see of him. We never

learn if he dies or not, but that is typical of the film. Although the film credits a book 'The Mind Parasites' by Colin Wilson, I have not been able to note any resemblance! 'Mildly inspired by' might be an appropriate credit. I cannot imagine Patrick being all that happy with his part in this film! [Ed - would this be the film Lisa is asking about?]

To Colin Mackay - quite agree with you... do you read other SF books? Read any in translation recently? Jules Verne is well known, and wrote many excellence fantasy stories, but only a handful are well known/available in the English speaking world - there are many more. Stanislaw Lem is available in translation. Who else? Where are many other Soviet SF authors (they also had a good SF film industry). Has anyone heard of Gust Gils (Holland); Juliette Raabe (France); Alessandro Mussi (Italy); G Altow (Poland) and so on. They have the misfortune not to write in English. Although the word 'robot' comes from a Czech book, few who use the word know that! TNG is probably being quite accurate, in an American speaking universe, to stick (mostly) to English speaking authors.

Karen Sparks - Exeter

I can't believe it's now 4 years since IDIC's first newsletter was compiled - in many ways it seems like only months since Janet was saying, "We've been thinking of starting up another club..." Over that time the page length has trebled but the dues have not even doubled, which, when you consider how much the cost of postage and materials have increased, has to be a good deal!

I would like to pick up a point that Taruka Quauhtezcatl mentioned in her review of *Make It So* in n/1 23, saying she would prefer the use of stardates in a story. Personally I don't find the stardate important at all and never even notice them. If the timing (within a series) is important to the plot, you should be able to tell roughly when it is set by the behaviour of the central characters, especially with Data and Worf whose characters develop a great deal throughout the seasons. And if the timing isn't important, then it doesn't matter anyway!

I'm sure I won't be the only one moved to respond to Guy Wigmore's less than complimentary opinion of the character of Picard, and more importantly, the acting ability of Patrick Stewart. I certainly wouldn't say that Patrick "doesn't relish his part in the way that...Michael Dorn does." You can't compare the two characters, they are at totally opposite ends of the spectrum - acting isn't all about action; it's not all flying fists and shooting phasers and running around. I think one of the greatest strengths of Patrick's acting is how beautifully understated it is. Picard has never given me the impression that he couldn't care less - only that a Captain of his great experience has learned to be calm and restrained in most situations - he would hardly be fit for the job if it were otherwise. For me, Patrick has always been the very best part of TNG - I'm not saying that it couldn't continue without him but I don't think it would have become so popular without his exceptional acting skills.

Jon Vernon - Twickenham, Middlesex

I'm sure this must have been written about before, but recently, whilst watching episodes of TNG and classic TREK, I became more and more aware that at the end of every TNG episode there seemed to be something missing. Suddenly it occurred to me what it was - the stills of previous episodes. As far as I am aware, no other programme has employed this method to close a show, and I think it can be argued that it actually contributed to STAR TREK's success (what's he babbling on about, I hear you say). My reasoning is as follows: each episode of classic TREK has, in effect, a little quiz. For people who are mildly interested in the show, the stills remind them of all the good episodes that they have seen in the past, and reinforce their wish to watch the show again next week. So come on, Paramount, there's still time, bring 'em back for the next season of TNG - think of all the pleasure you will bring (well, to me, at least).

I could be being partisan, but am I the only person who imagines that the writers of TNG have forgotten that Picard is meant to be French? Without getting into a discussion on what a Frenchman's traits would be in the

24th century, it would appear to me at least that the writers have been bowled over by Patrick Stewart's Shakespearian manner and now write parts for him as the archetypal Englishman. He drinks Earl Grey tea, coaches Data on interpersonal relationships using the works of Shakespeare rather than, say, Moliere, finds the presence of children uncomfortable and treats women with a reserve more typical of the average Englishman than Frenchman. He is, in fact, the epitome of so-called British reserve.

Whilst all these qualities add to Picard's character and I would never want him to lose them, they constantly remind me that if there were still national boundaries in the 24th century (which I strongly doubt), Stewart could have played a superb British captain instead of the European hybrid he has become.

I agree whole-heartedly with Janet's comments about the Enterprise. Somewhere along the line, it has been forgotten that the ship is (or was) a character in her own right. To many people, myself included, she was as important as the three principal characters. At least when Spock died he was resurrected, but when the ship died she was merely replaced by a facsimile - the form may be the same but the soul is missing, a fact that, unfortunately, STVI emphasises with its numerous errors instead of attempting to correct.

Finally, does anyone know what the notes are for the Star Trek fanfare? (And I mean the real notes, not dah, dah daah, dah, dah dah dah daaah.)

Helena Luckhurst - Maidstone, Kent

I've recently been out and about on my travels in my summer holidays and was with a couple of friends in Hastings. Little did I imagine that Star Trek would play a part in my visit but now I'm convinced, it gets everywhere! We decided to visit St. Clements Church in the heart of Hastings. Not only is it memorable for its beautiful stained glass windows and amazingly tranquil atmosphere, in comparison to the bustle of Hastings, but one of its stained glass windows bears a portrait of a character with a

striking resemblance to a certain Lieutenant Commander! Indeed, my eyes almost popped out of my head when I saw him! I was innocently looking at a stained glass window above the altar in the right hand side chapel when the figure at the bottom left hand corner caught my eye. Perhaps it was the purple monk's outfit that reminded me of Q Pid but there was Data with his usual serene expression and a habit bowed before the throne. My friend wasn't so convinced but, to me, the person in the window was a dead-ringer for the android himself!

Janet Quarton - Lochgilphead, Argyll

Like many members I have been sitting glued to BBC2 on Wednesday nights watching the original Star Trek. I am glad we have at last got the chance to see the series in its original form on British television and, despite what was reported in TV Zone, I haven't noticed any problem with the quality of the picture.

Part of the fun of watching early episodes is seeing the characters and their relationships develop as the actors become more at ease with their portrayal. In particular you can judge how early an episode is by how much Spock shouts.

I like Man Trap but it occurred to whilst watching it that Gene Roddenberry did things in this episode that he would not have done later on. Did anyone else feel that the way McCoy killed the Salt Creature was too violent and premeditated? If he had killed it with the first shot when he was protecting Kirk it would have been okay but that second shot was unnecessary and tantamount to murder. I think the writers got themselves into an impossible situation here as we had an apparently intelligent creature who seemed to have no qualms about killing. When it needed salt it seemed to prefer to kill for it rather than trust Crater, who had lived with it for a number of years, to provide the salt, and when threatened it killed Crater even though he had tried to protect it. If McCoy had not killed the creature I'm not sure what the Federation would have been able to do with a being which could impersonate anyone at will and which had no compunction about killing. A similar situation arose in Charlie X and

both episodes left me feeling sad. I feel there should have been another solution but I don't know what.

To Kay Stagg - I enjoyed your article on hurt/comfort but I don't think it has anything to do with maternal instinct in my case as, horror of horrors, I prefer dogs to children. My feelings for Kirk are definitely not maternal. On the other hand I think a lot of people identify to some degree with their favourite character and maybe they get some emotional feedback out of the love and concern showed to that character.

Richard Drinkwater - Bury, Lancs.

To the committee - thanks for a brilliant second year's membership of IDIC. N/L 23 was packed with exactly the right mix of letters and articles, and, to coin a phrase, was un-put-downable. The newsletters you produce are of a consistently high quality and worth every penny of the dues.

To Ann Peters - I noticed exactly the same things about Time's Arrow, and Worf's "Beam me up" was quite funny. The Perfect Mate also seemed similar to Elaan of Troyius - I hope the writers are deliberately revamping good storylines in good faith rather than just running out of their own ideas. I think Home Soil was more similar to The Devil in the Dark than The Naked Now to The Naked Time myself.

About the dictionaries in STVI - I thought Chekov said something about not using the translator because it was too easily recognised. Did I miss something?

Deep Space Nine - I'm a classic fan primarily, but entered the fan world about the time TNG came on the BBC, so I missed all arguments over TNG, but I imagine they were similar to the comments passing forth about DS9. As far as I'm concerned, I would suggest that ST fans wait until we've seen a few episodes until we praise or condemn it. Let's not forget that due to American TV, TNG has to end some time and a replacement would be nice. Also Rick Berman and co. do know as much about Star Trek as anyone else, so I'm sure it will stay true to Gene's

ideals. (Also at Rec-con D.C. Fontana said she's writing a script, so at least one episode will be worth watching.)

Kim Farey - Loughton, Essex

To Lee Sansome - I agree with you that in theory it would be nice to have a main room devoted to guests, panels etc. and a separate large video room for Next Gen. But what you've missed in the intervening years is that we've already tried that. For UFP 88 we had a 250 seater room for Next Gen videos and kept the main room for just those programme items you suggest. It was standing room only in the video room, as hot and crowded as the stewards dare allow it, with a queue outside stretching down the corridor. There was plenty of space in the main room where programme items that had taken several people hours, sometimes days, to plan played to less than a hundred people. The fact is that the majority of con attendees today want to watch the latest Next Gen videos and however much we wish it were otherwise no sensible con organiser can afford to put Next Gen in a small room and a panel. For example, in the main room. If Deep Space 9 turns out to be half as popular its going to be a real headache programming future cons. We certainly believe in providing an alternative programme to the video rooms - we've done everything from murder whodunnits to Klingon language classes - but we put them in smaller rooms because we know from experience that they are only going to get a small audience. No matter how creative and imaginative a con programme is you can't force people to attend if they'd rather be watching videos. All we can do is continue to provide a varied programme and hope that when there are no more new episodes there will be a reversal of the current trends and that such items will not only attract bigger audiences than they do now but also greater participation from the attendees, which is another thing that has sadly changed greatly since the early days of fandom. But I'm not holding my breath!

Philip Morley - Fleetwood, Lancs

To Sheila Clark and Paul Hulford - I think it is hard to say if Picard or Kirk know all their crew by name. Picard has a more difficult job, his crew compliment consists of

over 1000. whilst Kirk's was about 450. Also, on the Enterprise-D, there are about another 200 civilians (spouses and children), who I am sure Picard rarely sees on duty, so I doubt he would know them. But I think in both Kirk's and Picard's cases, they would recognise all their crew if not by name, by appearance. For example, if Enterprise was in Space Dock, and Picard went past one of his fellow crew members in Starbase, he would recognise he/she and probably say "hello" to them. I am sure this is the case for Kirk too. I remember at school, there was over 1000 pupils there. I knew nearly everyone in my year by name (about 220), and I knew quite a lot of other pupils' names, and if I ever see anyone I went to school with, I would recognise them.

To Karen Davies - How can you be dismayed by Paramount considering having a Star Trek VII? I admit, the crew are getting more 'mature' - so what? Picard's no spring chicken! (no offence, Patrick) The press are cruel criticising Kirk and his crew about how YOUNG they are, but who cares? It makes me smile when a blockbuster film such as Star Trek VI comes out - they couldn't think of anything to joke about this film then, it shut them up for once.

To Baerbel Schmidt - Unification is a good episode. I haven't seen it, but I have read the novel. The mind boggles with the possibility of Romulus/Vulcan 'Re-Unifying'. I too would like to see a sequel to this episode - not necessarily as a TNG episode, but perhaps a novel about the further adventures of Spock on Romulus.

To Martin Helsdon, The Enterprise's crew were to be de-commissioned, and not the Enterprise. She had another refit and a new crew added after the end of Star Trek VI. It is true, the Yorktown was as old as the NCC 1701, but it is Starfleet policy to completely refit a Starship every 20 years, and a small routine one every 5. So, the Yorktown is over 40 years, but can still remain in active service as long as she does under-go the refits.

Colin Mackay - Edinburgh

To Sharon Lamb - Hmmmm!

Three things to Marysia Kolodziej - 1. Re. your *Interesting Fact number one*: Following from this I can now give everyone a totally useless item of information: If you wanted to propel the outer rim of a wheel at or in excess of light speed using a regular car engine, the wheel would have to have a minimum radius of 33 Kilometres (20 Miles).

2. Time travel paradoxes I find quite easy to think about - then again I am the kind of person who gets upset when my watch is any more than 1 second out.

3. You mean that the dog I walk every day is in fact DEAD! No wonder I have to drag him into the gutter.

To Sharon Lamb - (After flicking over N/L 22) I see what you mean.

To Guy Wigmore - Yes, make Picard an Admiral at the end of season six. Yes make Riker the Captain of the Enterprise. But make Shelby the First Officer, no, no and thrice NO! Either Data, Worf or Geordie.

To Sharon Lamb - (After N/L 21 and 20) We-e-e-ell!

To James Mills - Please remember that people age more slowly than they did 400 years ago, thus in 400 years will age more slowly than they do now. How do we know that Picard is not 80+ years. After all McCoy at 137 years looks like the average 90 year old now, a difference of around 50 years.

Did you know that the human brain can store approximately 24,576 Terabytes of information (or 25,165,824 Giga bytes, or 25,769,803,776 Megabytes or ...) That is enough to store almost 5 millennia of CD quality Stereo sound, or almost 5 Centuries of 3D Animation. With that capacity I think that Kirk could know all his crew by sight or name, not always being able to link the name with the face, but at least being able to tell who is a crew member and who isn't.

To Sharon Lamb - It is not all that bad. If you have a Commodore-Amiga go

and look in your local PD library for Tobias Richter works. His ray traced overscanned interlaced pictures of the Enterprise, Klingons, Starbases etc. are wonderful. The problem is that files are so large that there are only half a dozen on each disk. Also the Star Trek Zine on Amiga disc has some of his works - "The Final Frontier".

Out of interest does anyone else have trouble getting Star Trek from their local Ritz Video Store? My local video store only has a couple of Season one TNG, ST-TMP, ST:TVH and Unification. What a selection!? I can't afford to buy all the season 4 and 5 on video thus I would prefer a renting option. If anyone knows of any Video store in the West of Edinburgh that has a better selection to rent please let me know. If enough people write to Ritz they might be persuaded to get a better selection of Star Trek videos. [Janet: Only a few 1st season TNG episodes and Unification have been released for rental - the rest are all on sell through. I don't know if video stores rent sell-through tapes.]

To Sharon Lamb - Look, Kathleen Glancy is entitled to her opinion, you are entitled to yours. Anyway the comments that have been made are not always "Shatner this, and Shatner that".

Helen White - Bracknell. Berks

I loved the double columnning; it looked great and was much easier to read. However, the print itself was very patchy and the commas all lost their bottoms (oer). [Janet: I'm afraid we can't do much about the print quality as we're in the hands of our printer. We do produce good quality A4 masters on a bubble jet, but some quality is lost when these are reduced to A5 and the litho plates are made.]

I enjoyed the n/l, as usual, especially Edward Woo's con report and the postbag. I have to grovel again though; I'm really sorry Katrina (Heintz), but I wrote a number down wrong in your crossword. 22 across should actually be 23. I think I need a brain transplant; anyone got a spare?

To Marysia Kolodziej - I enjoyed the joke; and I agree with you about 'time travel paradox' articles. They give me a headache

too!

To Martin Stahl - I really enjoyed Ethics; if 'enjoyed' is the right word! SPOILER ALERT.... SPOILER ALERT....I couldn't believe it when Worf died; I sat there saying, "They can't kill Worf, it's not fair." Okay, so he wasn't really dead, but at the time I didn't know whether Michael Dorn had suddenly got fed up and left TNG in a huff or something, so for a few minutes I was getting seriously agitated. I haven't re-watched the episode yet, but I think that it'll be just as good next time around, albeit without the shock element.

To Gaile Wood - I agree with you about the deficit in bare male chests on TNG; and talking of Worf...

To Helen White - oh no, that's me isn't it? Oops.

To James Brand - re 'gay' TNG episodes; have you seen The Outcast yet? I think it's an excellent commentary on prejudice against 'abnormal' sexual orientation. SPOILER ALERT.... The story is set on a planet inhabited by a totally asexual race. One of them is working with Riker and finds 'herself' attracted to him. When 'her' fellows find out, 'she' is taken away and 're-educated' to be 'normal'. It's what I call a 'stop-and-think' episode; I found it quite frightening in that the 'bad' guys were merely doing what they thought best, and trying to help their 'ill' fellow, while in fact they were restricting 'her' freedom to be what 'she' was meant to be. (Sorry about all the apostrophes; I think we need a new pronoun!)

To Karen MacGarvie - I read in an interview that Robin Curtis was told by Leonard Nimoy to say "David is dead" that way. Incidentally, I may be in a minority but I prefer Robin Curtis's Saavik.

To John Sherratt - Re Leonard Nimoy appearing in a Bangles video: Jane Weidlin of The Bangles was in STIV as an alien captain reporting in to Starfleet command during the early stages of the Probe's efforts, so I assume that's how they met, seeing as Leonard directed IV.

Neil J Barrett - Preston

On Uhura's ability to speak Klingonaase - The Communications division of Starfleet embraces a number of disciplines; Communications Technology, Languages, Linguistics, Cryptography, Information Theory etc. If Uhura has chosen to specialise in something other than languages then she may well only have a rudimentary knowledge of Klingonaase and will rely on the Universal Translator for most of the time.

She can probably read and understand Klingonaase otherwise she would have had severe trouble on the 'HMS Bounty' in STIV:TVH but this is different from being able to speak or write it correctly. Had the UT been available, using it would still have been risky. If the listening post had bothered to analyse the signal they would have been able to detect that it was a computer generated voice rather than anyone actually speaking.

Given that the Enterprise was on a diplomatic mission we might expect to have a few interpreters aboard even though the Klingons all speak perfect Standard. Translation in delicate circumstances would not be left to computers - each side would want its own interpreter there if only as a back up or a double check. Perhaps Uhura would have taken a brief refresher course in Klingonaase if she had time before the mission.

I appreciate that this was meant to be a light-hearted interlude before another tense period in the film but the joke went so far as to be ridiculous. It would have worked better if on discovering that the UT had been sabotaged by Valeris, Uhura had played the whole thing by ear with only the subtitles to reveal to us that her fluency was not 100%.

On overweight/unattractive crewmembers - I'd say it was reasonable to ask that combat and operational crew keep themselves at a reasonable level of fitness - hence McCoy's badgering of Kirk about physicals. It is also reasonable to assume that other crewmembers (researchers, administrators etc) would be set a lower

standard. However, the medical division would certainly encourage a minimum level of fitness for all the crew. Any member who is obese to the point of it affecting their health would be under scrutiny and possibly forced to diet and/or exercise.

It may well be that the social trends of the future will move more towards a greater interest in one's appearance so that the crew will make the effort themselves. Improvements in cosmetics, plastic surgery, availability of training facilities will enable the individual to have greater control over how they look with less effort. Thus the Enterprise crew reflects the populations from which it is drawn.

I do know that the real reason is the demands of television and the easy availability of reasonably attractive performers. I'm simply looking for a sensible explanation for this phenomenon. Please don't be offended if you don't fit the Californian ideal - I'm not exactly a candidate for the Chippendales myself.

To Marysia Kolodziej - on Gillian Taylor changing history. Gillian explicitly states that she has no ties, therefore her disappearance will just go down in the records as a missing person with only negligible effects on history. Kirk took a risk in order to save the Federation (where have you heard that phrase before?) on the information he had at the time.

To Ann T Robertson - on Jeans. In "Captain's Log etc." Shatner says that he asked for the 23rd Century equivalent of Levis. Hence Spock's jacket was supposed to be both functional and futuristic. However it looks as if the costume team took him a little too literally. I would expect jeans to have been superseded on practical grounds but they might still be around as a fashion item.

To Martin Helsdon - on Ships. In the TNG novel "The Captains' Honour" by David & Daniel Dvorkin, the Constitution-class USS Farragut has been refitted to modern specifications and sold on to the Magna Romans (see the episode 'Bread and Circuses') in the same way that Royal Navy ships were

sold on to former colonies.

According to "Mr Scott's Guide to the Enterprise", NCC 1701-A was originally to be a new vessel named USS Ti-Ho. I've no idea where USS Yorktown comes into it. [*Janet - Mr Scott's Guide to the Enterprise is fan speculation. It was Richard Arnold, when he was working on the show, who said that NCC 1701-A was actually the refitted USS Yorktown. She wasn't a new ship.*]

To Barry Doherty - on Ranks and Taking Command. I haven't seen the episode but logically the point should be about line and staff officers. Obviously, Lieutenant O'Brien outranks Ensign Ro and both are line officers. However, Lieutenant Commander Troi is a staff officer; she does not have command training, she does not even wear uniform or rank discs. She should give way to O'Brien even though she outranks him because the chain of command gives line officers precedence over staff officers unless the CO has explicitly handed over the conn. Thus, if Picard and Riker are suddenly lost, Lt Cdr Data takes charge even though the next most senior officer is Commander Beverly Crusher.

To Sheila Clark - on VE Mitchell and gender of authors. Your review of "Imbalance" suggests you are not sure of the author's gender. On the basis of "Enemy Unseen" I would say female. We know that AC Crispin and JM Dillard are female; I think that LA Graf is as well but I can't tell about MS Murdock. The same problem arises with common gender first names; I feel that Lee Correy is male but Dana Kramer-Rolls could be either. Does anybody know for certain?

Ishtiaq Huassin - Luton

I have just received N/L 23 and once again found it to be a great read. If there is any criticism I can make of it, then it is that there is too much text and not enough pictures; however, it looks as if I won't even be able to make that complaint once you get fully up to steam with the new computer.

Like many other members I have been suffering from withdrawal symptoms ever since TNG finished. Unfortunately I am not

one of those who can afford to buy the videos, so I thought I would have to survive without any Star Trek until the BBC started showing the original series again. Then I discovered Blockbuster Video. This is a video rental company which, miracle of miracles, stocks Star Trek videos which members could hire. They have the complete set of the original series and many of TNG. The only problem was that they had a very strange policy on which of the new videos were purchased for members to hire, and consequently they had large gaps in the TNG episodes that they kept.

I decided therefore to write to their head office to find out if it was possible for them to obtain all the TNG tapes or at the very least all the tapes of season 4 onwards. Although I did not receive a written answer from them I did manage to speak to someone on the phone and was told that they are actively looking to put all the TNG tapes into Blockbuster Video outlets, but that this might take some time. This was back in May, and to date has not happened.

Ritz Video is also part of the same group, so if you have either one of these near you, how about writing in to Blockbuster asking them to obtain Star Trek videos. This may induce them to get the videos into the outlets quicker, if they see that there is a demand for them. I am assuming that there *will* be demand for hiring Trek videos!

The address of the Blockbuster Video head office is - Blockbuster Video, 45 Riverside Way, Uxbridge, Middx UB8 2YP.

Gary Heron - Falkirk

To James Brand - the script by David Gerrold which was rejected was called 'Blood and Fire'. Gene Roddenberry was asked about this script in an interview in Starburst No 151. From his comments in that article it is clear that Gene had absolutely no problem with the idea of gay crew members and that the script was rejected because it portrayed the relationship as it would be today rather than how it would be in Gene's version of the 24th century, where anti-gay bigotry would not exist on the Enterprise.

It is unfortunate that this information

was not more widely known as at the time two tabloid newspapers published articles stating that the script had been rejected because the idea of gay crew members on the Enterprise was unacceptable. I personally find it disgraceful that these papers should use Star Trek in an attempt to support their own narrow-minded bigotry.

Fortunately there is a fifth season episode called The Outcast which deals with the subject of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Just as in the original series where the destructive and futile nature of colour prejudice was examined through an alien race in Let That Be Your Last Battlefield, so in The Outcast an alien race is used to examine the effect of the type of anti-gay prejudice which exists in so many societies today.

Although the episode does not portray a gay relationship as such it is impossible to watch it without being aware that the subject under discussion is the prejudice faced by gay people in today's world. I do hope you will soon have the opportunity to view this episode which in my opinion is one of the best of the fifth season and that it will convince you that TNG can and does continue to tackle contemporary prejudice - which as you rightly stated was one of the great strengths of the original series.

Re ST VI: I see no reason to assume that the technology required to allow the Bird of Prey to fire when cloaked was either lost with the ship or was in some way defective. Ever since cloaking devices were introduced by the Romulans there has been a technological battle going on between those using cloaking technology and their enemies who are working on ways to detect cloaked ships. The reason why the 'fire when cloaked' ships do not appear in TNG is that the technology is 80 years out of date. I would argue that after the events of ST VI Starfleet worked on perfecting sensor technology which would allow these ships to be detected at long range and that after this, when the Klingons redesigned the cloaking device to compensate, found that they could no longer support the ability to fire when cloaked and provide the new level of

cloaking required. This of course means that they may in the future have a breakthrough in their technology and that the Enterprise-D could encounter a ship with 'fire when cloaked' technology.

Re ST VII: I am rather worried by the prospect of ST VII featuring all the original cast. The storyline of ST VI leaves Kirk, McCoy and Scotty all retiring from Starfleet, Spock beginning a career as a diplomat and the Enterprise being decommissioned. I feel that any plot for ST VII which tried to get so many characters back on active service would suffer from a complete lack of credibility; it is difficult to envisage any crisis which would cause Starfleet to bring back retired personnel to crew Starships.

I also feel that ST VI, which I liked, was written so obviously as the last film in the series, and in my opinion gave the series a well-rounded finish, that to do ST VII with the original crew would be a bit of anticlimax.

Taruka Queuhtezcatl - Preston

Re nerve impulses, speed of. I won't contradict the book. 90km/h sounds a bit slow to me. I was basing my comment on standard nerve conduction testing which uses a mild electric current (light speed) to measure reaction time in a given nerve. I thought all electro/magnetic signals travelled at the speed of light... I must have gone wrong somewhere in my A-level physics course!

Re disintegrating tribbles. I would have thought the simplest answer to that problem would be a) complain to the shipper; b) complain to the manufacturer and c) make your own in future. I had about 30 on the back of my sofa but so many people have asked me for them that I'm down to 5. I'll just have to make some more, I suppose.

Further to trepidation concerning DS9. The premise sounds workable but the details are slightly crazy. Had I written anything like that into a story I would be by now trying to find ways to make it believable - a certain editor in Strathmartine having told me to rewrite the damn thing! (Sorry, Sheila, no

offence intended.) However, it MIGHT be better than our worst fears lead us to believe.

To Gaile Wood. Not having seen Ethics yet I can't comment as to the means of repairing Worf's back but I do recall having to think of a solution to the same problem in a short story I wrote at college. It was one of the hardest things to do. My comments re joining the spinal column stand, from memories of being given a sheep's spine broken down into its component parts during a biology lecture and having to put it back together again... somehow.

To Pam Baddeley - I omitted to mention your point but I thought I'd inferred it. Expansion of water in animal cells occurs during slow prolonged freezing but can occur to a lesser degree when temperature is dropped rapidly. In fact it was used by certain ancient civilisations to preserve food by a primitive kind of freeze-drying. If there are doubters out there, try putting a lettuce leaf in the freezer and then thawing it out. The result is caused by expansion of water within thin walls. Anyway I still think the whole idea's preposterous. I'm put in mind of a quote, applicable to those who subscribe to the idea of cryogenic freezing:

Picard: Every man has his time, every man. Without exception. But you've cheated. You've extended your life at the expense of another. (Tracy Torme, The Schizoid Man).

Wouldn't that be exactly the case with a head/body transplant? Come to think of it, was that what Tracy Torme was getting at in the first place?

To Barry O'Doherty. I've always believed time travel possible - eventually. But I get the feeling it won't be quite as easy as any of us imagined it. The atomic clock's findings seem to point to this; if we travel fast enough for long enough time slows down (something to do with Einstein, I believe). Now if that is so, we can theoretically travel into the future (as time will have gone faster at our starting point than for us) but can't return to the past. Excuse the pun, but that sounds like a waste

of time to me.

To Ann Peters - re viruses. I seem to recall that they need a host cell in which to live. That cell does the living while the virus simply acts as a parasite, taking whatever it needs and multiplying until the cell wall bursts and the viruses escape once more. Ugh!

To anyone at all. Is it my imagination, or is the crystalline entity in Silicon Avatar a different one from that in Datalore? I ask because the latter appears symmetrical but the former has a definite clockwise spiral.

Jeff Martin - Japan

First of all, I'd like to say hello to all my IDIC pen friends and apologise for my long absence from these pages and their mailboxes. I had a bit of a personal crisis from which I'm now fully recovered and you can expect to be hearing from me more frequently.

N/L 23 is the best-looking issue yet! Especially appreciated the much more reader friendly two column layout.

One of the consistently best features of this zine is the convention updates. Specifically, the panel and guest speaker reports are usually informative and always entertaining. I commend Helen White and others for keeping us abreast of the latest news from the cons and hope they continue in this endeavour.

However, the first person accounts of con-attendees' weekends are a terribly boring waste of space. I couldn't care less about the writer's problems getting off work early, arranging transport, checking into the hotel, or such things as who the writer roomed with, or what the room looked like, or where they ate their meals or who they ate their meals with or what they bought in the dealers' room or what old friends they happened to run into in the hallway or what kind of music they were playing at the disco or who they danced with, etc, etc, *ad nauseam*.

Regarding the book reviews, I have a couple of questions for Sheila Clark.

1) I, too, found that "I didn't care much how - or even if - matters were resolved" in Ice Trap. I generally take this as a sign of a poorly written book. How is it you "quite enjoyed" it?

2) You said in your review of Imzadi that it would be best if fans refrained from buying hardback editions of Trek novels to discourage Pocket from printing them. I couldn't agree with you more and have refused from the beginning to buy any of the novels printed in hardback. However, by printing reviews of hardback editions, aren't you encouraging fans to buy them? You could argue that you're doing IDIC readers a service by providing them with information with which to make an informed purchase. We both know, however, that there are many potential borderline buyers who will purchase the book based on a favourable review. If after having read yours of Imzadi they then go out and buy it, I don't think you can deny that you've at least indirectly assisted Pocket Books in fleecing the fans. Instead of asking others not to buy what you already own and enjoy, my suggestion would be (if you're really serious about this) to ban the publication of hardback reviews in IDIC.

[Sheila - Normally we don't answer something directly, but as these questions were directed specifically at me, I thought they needed an answer here. To answer your first point, Jeff, I managed to read Ice Trap inside one day, which - although I found no great urgency in the story - says something about the fluency of the writing. I also still remembered some details of the plot a few days later - all too often I find I forget what any given novel is about inside 24 hours. I did say I found the writing competent; I didn't find myself thinking at regular intervals 'I could phrase this better' (which has been the case with some novels); I just felt that the writer had failed to catch any real sense of 'this matters!' in the development of the whole. I suppose you could say I enjoyed the idea behind the book and the writer's basic use of words, while deploring his (her?) apparent inability to push the action along.

Regarding the second point, my comment about not buying hardbacks was more of an idle speculation than a serious suggestion, because I know there are some people who positively want

hardbacked books and hate having their shelves filled with paperbacks unless there's no alternative. I buy a copy of a hardback book because we feel that reviewing it is (as you said) a service to members; and I believe that for every borderline buyer who does purchase the book because of the review, there is another who, on the basis of the same review, will probably wait for the paperback instead of succumbing to temptation.

After reading it for review, I usually then donate the hardback copy to the Guide Dog box and buy the paperback, when it comes out, for my own shelves... which is what I would personally be doing if I was not involved in running a club, with the responsibilities to the members that I believe that entails - waiting for the paperback.

Liz Tuckett - Laindon, Essex

Personal viewpoint of SOL III; following convention reports in N/L 21 and comments in N/L 22 & 23, shall we stop burying SOL III once and for all and look forward to the future? I don't think so. It is a (not) well known phrase or saying that there are only three things that matter about conventions to the people who attend them. These are 1) venue, 2) venue and 3) venue.

It has been written in N/L 22 & 23 that broadly speaking poor TV quality, lack of guest star speaker and timetable changes verging on the astrological do not have to matter because there are compensations at conventions. Yes, I agree. Personally, at SOL III when it got grim I went into the main hall and had a good laugh at the architecture - that would cheer up anybody. It did made everything look like a recycled pantomime due to the excess of chandeliers and gilt, but then that's the venue, nineteenth century ugly! My husband sat in the lobby area watching people go by to dispel the gloom, and then also we attempted a walk around the city centre to see the sights. We made that last almost half an hour, Birmingham being everything that people say it is.

The Dealers' Room was however a major compensation. I bought a Next Generation fridge magnet and am not ashamed to say so in public since it was at the same time the best and the cutest idea. My husband said, "Ooh, look, it's, er, fallen apart

in my hands" and that was that. I did intend to get a badge that said TEA, TETLEY'S, TEPID but they had run out by the time I'd realised they were there. Never mind.

As far as good conventioning goes (N/L 23) are we here not falling prey to the dreadful truth that we all know but pretend to ignore when it suits us, that Trek is first and foremost a personal understanding of a TV phenomenon? Therefore watching Trek translates from personal reaction to group activity only with a corresponding chance in social vocabulary or shift of mind. It is true that the British mind increasingly lacks practical experience of how to be an individual but not a thorough pain in a large group setting, eg Intercity trains, video rooms at conventions and cinemas. When it works, it works very well. I shall remember the London showing of ST III. I went it to Leicester Square - two thousand fans in unison. That is what conventions are all about - the look on the face of someone who has never attended a con before coming face to face with a group of Klingons in a narrow hotel corridor. It is also the sort of moment which is hard to explain but ought not to be missed. The convention is dead - long live the convention.

Following the start of the Original Trek again now on BBC2, could some kind person please tell me which episodes were previously edited the most insensitively by the BBC. Apart from sheer curiosity about what was missed out (the why was due to insensitive scheduling as we might guess) I recorded the almost complete run on Sky (satellite) two years ago and want to record over the worst butchered rather than the lot. I believe reruns of TNG start in October and look forward to TNG with adverts - a unique and unBritish experience. If they do what they did last time there will be a late night showing repeated teatime the next day. If you can ignore the adverts, it's not all that bad! [Janet: we printed a series of articles about the BBC cuts. If you write to me enclosing a 9" x 6" SAE plus 50p in stamps I'll send you a copy. REMEMBER if you rerecord over a cut episode, you will lose the beginning of the next episode on the tape.]

Tim Knight - Tunbridge Wells

I would like to address some issues I feel were raised in Edwin Yau's excellent "Kirk or Picard" article in N/L 21. It was a very well argued piece, but Eddie's obvious bias towards Kirk did show. Both are men of their times - Kirk was a 'pioneer'; I regard Picard - in rather crude terms - as a 'proper commander'. I would dispute the implication that Picard is always surrendering - look at The Best of Both Worlds - and as to questioning his strategy, remember that this is the man who invented the Picard Manoeuvre (The Battle).

The central flaw in the comparison, however, is the initial question, re a choice of captains if alien forces were invading earth. I honestly don't know which I would prefer, but I think if it were possible for both men to be present then Kirk would take command instantly while Picard would allow Kirk to take command if he thought that was the right thing to do.

But if the comparison came from another scenario, the voting might well have been different. Kirk, himself, said in Errand of Mercy, "I'm a soldier, not a diplomat." Try and imagine how Kirk would have coped with the Worf/dishonour incident in Sins of the Father!

SPOILER ALERT! Parts of this letter now refer to fourth and fifth season episodes.

As to the subject of not knowing much of Picard's background, more has been revealed since Eddie's article especially in episodes such as Family and The Perfect Mate, and his athletic prowess was mentioned in Best of Both Worlds (winning the Academy marathon) and The First Duty.

The Picard/Crusher Romance - the clearest indication that while it may not have yet happened this is an affair waiting to happen was the episode Allegiance when the substitute Picard - complete with his memories but not his inhibitions - seduced the good Doctor.

The reason the affair is yet to take off is that Picard is a man of great honour and discipline, with a strictly defined concept of

when is the right time for certain actions - look at the way he resists the metamorph in The Perfect Mate. Away from his command post and his responsibility to the Enterprise, however, he has shown himself to be a man capable of passion - in Captain's Holiday. After all, it was Picard who made the first move on Vash at the camp site!

Because their great friendship and love for each other has yet to develop into anything more physical, I am therefore sticking to my guns about Wesley not being Picard's son and further justifying my comments in a previous postbag (this time within the bounds of Star Trek, rather than as a 'plot device' as I did then).

Hollow Pursuits - surely this was the ultimate Mary Sue/fan dream. To have your own personal Star Trek/Enterprise crew to 'play with'. Barclay is also living proof that not everyone on the Enterprise is perfect, and is surely someone many of us can more readily relate to than the other ubermensch of Starfleet.

[Ed - Thanks for sending this in again, Tim. You were right, it did not reach us the first time.]

Chris C Bailey - Didcot, Oxfordshire

Stardate: A day in the life of a long suffering UK Trekker... Ever since I was knee-high to a grasshopper (I'm feeling old at thirty something) I determined to myself that I would one day collect all the Classic episodes on videotape, as well as everything else that Paramount decided to release. Well, I recently realised that oh-so-long dream by completing my ST collection with episodes 10/11 and 69/70, and thought I had finally achieved something by proudly displaying around 439 quids' worth along my bedroom shelf... That is, until ST:TNG came along! And yes, it was back to scrimping and saving every last penny I could lay my hands on and start the (choking sob) enormous task of shopping for ST:TNG episodes; cassette No. 1 onwards. Looking at it from one perspective (as I stand near the till in WH Smiths, whilst holding a copy of Encounter at Farpoint in my trembling, sweaty left hand, and fumbling with my moth-eaten leather wallet with the other), I realise that saving my £3.50

weekly paper-round money isn't going to be enough, I'll either have to turn to professional thievery or, more realistically (and less painfully, I might add) I'll simply have to consider taking out a 25-year, 100% no-deposit mortgage to cover the cost! Let's see now, that's 2 episodes per cassette at £10.99 each, multiplied by 50 (and that's NOT including the fifth season!!) and I'm looking at buying a whopping great £549.50 quid's worth! Argh!!!! But seriously, fellow Trekkers, isn't it *amazing* that the more popular ST/ST:TNG becomes (and right now it's *very* popular around the Globe!) the higher we're charged per cassette? First it's £9.99, then £10.99, and soon it will be £???.? Even so, I'll still go out and buy them, because I'm fully addicted to ST in all its forms, and couldn't bear to be deprived of my weekly 'fix' of Kirk and Picard... Could you?

Steven Gibb - Glasgow

To Janet Quartan - I agree with you about DS9; it may turn out to be an excellent SF series but I can't yet see how it can be classed as Star Trek when the very words 'Star Trek' suggests a Trek among the Stars. You can't really do much 'trekking' in a Space Station, can you? However, I look forward to it, and with the new show every success.

To Bettina Rackel - in ST VI, the scene where the Bird of Prey is destroyed is my favourite, for two reasons - a) Chang was an evil conspirator, who would have, if successful, destroyed both Starships, therefore ending any possibility of saving the President from being assassinated and, in effect, started a massive war between the Federation and the Klingon Empire. It wasn't just the Enterprise and Excelsior on the line, but also any possibility of lasting peace. b) I am a fan of special effects, and the way the Bird of Prey rocked about as it was struck was very well done. I liked your idea of original type Klingons appearing in TNG and being against the peace treaty; that would make an excellent episode.

To Martin Helsdon - I think the reason why we haven't seen any Constitution Class Starships in TNG is that the design is so old. Those designs might not be able to house the modern technology we see in the Galaxy

Class Enterprise.

In ST VI, why was the Enterprise able to approach the planet on which the peace conference was held without being intercepted by defence ships? What if an enemy vessel had taken orbit and destroyed Camp Khitomer? I think that if it was such an important conference there would have been ships orbiting the planet to defend it against any vessel approaching. In addition the representatives on the planet would need to have had transport waiting for them. Surely any ships orbiting would have monitored the battle between the Enterprise and its invisible opponent.

Contagion was great. It was my first full convention, and I would like to congratulate the committee for organising such a terrific three days. I'm one of the people who can't afford to go to cons unless they're near where I live; I went to Contagion by myself, something I would not do if I had to travel far. I'll definitely be at Contagion '93.

One last question, which may be a silly one - in Redemption II, why didn't the Romulan ships just go round the Tachyon field sent out by the Federation Fleet?

Paul Hulford - Camberley

To Matthew Conway - your time travel idea is most interesting, but I do not see the point. If all your time travelling exploits occurred in an alternate universe, and did not affect your own, what good would it do? It sounds like a good entertainment medium, though, similar to a holodeck. It could also have a practical use. You could go to the alternative universe and test your theories, to see if they would work in the 'real' world.

To James Mills - I have an unofficial explanation to your question about Picard's age. I remember reading - I cannot remember where - that due to medical science and a better standard of living, the ageing process in the 24th century has slowed, people will live longer, and consequently have a longer working life, say from 18 - 95, with an average life expectancy of 125. This would mean Picard could be 75

and still have 20 working years ahead of him. It is not a perfect solution to the age question, but it does allow some questions to be answered.

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl - why should Data know how to construct an android? Just because he is one doesn't mean he knows all the answers. The Human race has been around a lot longer than Data, and we are no nearer understanding how we work. Commander Maddox learned about Data by study, just as Humans learn about each other. He knew the theory, but what he lacked was the inspiration of great men like Einstein and Soong.

To Karen McGarvie - I agree that Kirstie Alley is the better actress, but give Saavik a break. I would imagine it's difficult to be poignant when you've just witnessed a cold blooded murder and now the murderer is pointing the knife at you.

To Kirstie Jordan - how would Salia know what was attractive? She took Human form to blend in with the rest of the crew, as did her guardian. The Enterprise crew was expecting a young princess and her elderly guardian, and that is what they got. Also, it takes two to tango. Salia was attracted to Wesley and made the first move when she could have just walked on down the corridor.

Finally, a plea for mercy. Please save me from this "Did he?" "Didn't he?" debate. I think it has now been established that Kirk never said the exact words "Beam me up, Scotty", but did come close on several different occasions. Now that the original series is back on our screens we will now be able to answer this question for ourselves.

Ann Peters - Kidderminster

To Guy Wigmore - your assertion that Picard is no longer fit for command is quite worrying. I have certainly noticed that he seems to be taking rather a long time to come to a decision these days, so you may be right. I shall be watching very carefully for further signs of deterioration in future episodes! I'm not sure, however, that Riker is quite ready to command a Starship. His little tantrums in Ethics and Silicon Avatar show him to be

much too intolerant to be trusted with all those new life forms and new civilisations that, as Captain of the Enterprise, he would be boldly seeking out. Perhaps, though, as I suspect, the Enterprise doesn't actually do that any more!

To Gaile Wood - I totally agree about the lack of exposure in TNG. Admittedly, Kirk's weekly strip did become a bit of a joke after a while, but these days we get nothing! In the first two seasons we could catch a glimpse of manly contours beneath the spandex, but the bulky straitjackets of later shows have taken even that away. Sadly the jackets are far too expensive to rip, à la Kirk, and with upside down back zips, they are difficult to remove unaided. Maybe we'll have more luck with DS9!

To Taruka Queuhtezcatl - Brent Spiner said at a con that he thinks Spot was the cat's real name and he (the cat) was unwilling to change it, but he may have been joking. He also thought that 'Spock' would have been a better name to use.

To Martin Stahl - If you thought Ethics was ridiculous, I wonder what you thought of Spock's revival in ST II! I took it that Worf wasn't actually dead; Crusher just thought he was. She knew so little about Klingon physiology it was an easy mistake for her to make.

To Eds - how come my comments on Time's Arrow got a spoiler alert and Martin's disclosure of the end of Ethics didn't?!! [Ed - Ooops! Part of the problem with spoiler alerts is that we don't always remember which episodes the BBC has shown and which ones are season 4 & 5... and soon, 6.]

I very much hope we don't see any more personal attacks like Sharon Lamb made in N/L 23. If someone criticises your favourite star or character unjustly, answer the criticism by all means, but to make attacks on the writer merely weakens your case. It shows you haven't got an answer and that what was said was probably correct. I hadn't actually noticed before that Kathleen was anti-Kirk, but that's possibly because I'm not super-sensitive about him. Since the real

star of the series is the Enterprise, it's quite easy to love Trek and still dislike one of the supporting cast (Spock, Kirk, etc.)

To Gloria Fry - thank you very much for recommending Asimov's Satisfaction Guaranteed. I enjoyed the similarities between Tony and Data, but the story itself was so sexist it really annoyed me; I'd have dumped the husband and kept the robot for sure! It was interesting that Tony's lack of facial expressions made Humans feel uneasy. A lot of fans see Data's expressions as an indication of underlying emotion, but they are probably just a design feature to make it easier for Humans to interact with him.

I was horrified to read that 'Human' androids may be out of SF because of possible Paramount lawsuits. Star Trek didn't invent androids, and I've seen other stories about Human androids before Data. Surely Paramount can't really have a monopoly on something they didn't invent simply because Brent Spiner has done such a good job of portraying Data. That would be a dreadful misuse of the popularity of Star Trek. And considering how much Data has 'borrowed' from a certain puppet, maybe someone connected with Pinocchio should sue Paramount!

Anne Rogers - Swindon

Contagion was a superb con, well worth the journey up to Glasgow despite the fact that the train was an hour and forty five minutes late due to vandals digging up the signalling cables (I kid you not!). When I finally arrived the hotel didn't have a room for me, although I had the receipt from them for my deposit. It was eventually sorted out, but it soured things a bit to start off with.

George Takei was an excellent guest, very funny, likeable and a person who just about radiates energy and the joy of living. It's so refreshing that there are people like him in the world! In fact all of the guest talks I heard were interesting.

It was nice to meet people from IDIC and put faces to names.

I'd like to say that I really appreciate

the con reports which Helen White writes. I always chuckle when I read them! I don't know what I was expecting, but I was quite surprised when I saw that this person to whom amazing things seem to happen in the normal course of events looks quite perfectly normal (I hope you know what I mean, Helen, 'cos I've just realised this sounds really rude, but I don't know how to rephrase it! I didn't mean to be rude, honest!) What I'd like to know is: how do you think up the titles for your reports?!

Re ST VI. The beginning is the best of all the films for my money - riveting stuff! I took a friend to see it the second time around and she was glued to the screen right away! The explosion and then later Excelsior coming into the shock waves, oh yes - great stuff...

The galley - I lived on a ship for two years, and all our food was prepared and served in one area, but there were little pantries (galleys) where people could prepare their own food if they wished, either because they were concocting something new or because they just liked doing it themselves sometimes. So I've never had a problem with the Enterprise galley.

I also didn't understand the red-blooded Klingon until I saw the Director's cut at SOL III. I'm not at all sure about Uhura and the Klingon books - perhaps the universal translator would have been obvious to the Klingons? Anyway, that did grate a bit. I also found Kirk's reaction to the Klingons a bit over-reactionary, and I WISH people would forget the novelisations (ie re Carol Marcus in this case) when they are considering the films. We've been told that they have nothing to do with the story on film and therefore the contents, except where reflected on the screen, are entirely fictitious, even in the Star Trek universe. (ie some fiction is more fiction than others!) In any case, even in the unfilmed prequel, printed in N/L 22, Carol was not injured in any way. I'm not saying, though, that Kirk would not have grieved for his son, I'm sure he did - more because he didn't know him and didn't get the chance to know him than because he did, but it just seemed so contrary to his

reactions in the past.

Lastly, I loved the soundtrack - it's great!

Eddie Yau - Hove, East Sussex

To Baerbel Schmidt and Matthew Conway: My opinion of "Sins Of The Father" being an average episode still stands, but after watching "Yesterday's Enterprise" a few more times, I'd say it was good, but not the best of the season. I'd rate it a 6 or 7 out of 10. What's good about it is the plot and character interplay. What really lets it down is the final battle sequence. I mean, where did Picard learn to fight!?! The battle had no depth - the tension wasn't there - and between all his Gamma, Alpha, and Delta battle sequences or what have you, (at which point I was thinking "What is he doing???"), it was no wonder he lost in the end. He might as well been throwing tribbles at the Klingons (which would have been a much better and more effective idea!)

In my opinion the best 3rd season episode, in fact the best TNG episode to date, has to be "The High Ground". That episode was a brilliant combination of drama and of a moral tale, reflecting terrorism and life today. This and episodes like "Ensign Ro" prove things like the Prime Directive couldn't really work in real life under certain circumstances.

As to "The Best Of Both Worlds", so what if Spock couldn't connect himself into the collective consciousness of the Borg? He would have built a computer with Scotty's help that could do the job, and no doubt Kirk would probably found a way to destroy the Borg ship. Don't forget that you're talking about the finest First Officer Starfleet ever had, the famous "miracle worker" and the only Starfleet cadet who beat the "no-win scenario"! A winning combination in my opinion. And, at least this First Officer wasn't the one who was about to ram a starship full of men, women and CHILDREN into the Borg ship!!! A well thought out idea that was!

Guinan is played brilliantly by Whoopi Goldberg but I don't think Riker or Deanna are really needed in TNG. If you think about

it, they are just carbon copies of Decker and Ilia.

"Unification" didn't work for me as the whole story plodded along. There was no life in it. Nothing happened! The only thing that perked me up momentarily was the mention of Kirk. I'd be more interested in a Natural Law party political broadcast! However, the upcoming Scotty episode looks promising.

To Bettina Rackel: I'm sure there are Bonanza fans out there. There are probably just as many people who want to end up cowboys as there are those who want to be astronauts. After watching all those Clint Eastwood spaghetti westerns, I know I'd like to be the guy with the rug who blows away the bad guys! Don't you think a person's got more chance becoming a cowboy via acting or being a stuntman than an astronaut? Something like Aliens and Quantum Leap is just as good as Trek, but it doesn't mean I'm going to end up a Quantum scientist or anything! Star Trek is just a good TV show and nothing else.

To Gaile Wood: You nearly hit the nail on the head about Troi in Yar's place as Security Chief, but I'm not saying that if you're tiny with a female figure then you won't be good at combat. Anyone tiny and fighting the 24th century Arnold Schwarzenegger would be at a rather severe disadvantage, but what I'm saying is (putting it as politely as possible) that Troi's particular figure is rather off-putting to see in combat (for me anyway). Who can honestly say that she's not on the ship for sex appeal to pull more viewers? Unless anyone else can prove me wrong, she is the only person on the bridge I see wearing a low-cut dress.

Laurence Sumeray - Northampton

I note that the opinion on whether a further film with the original cast should or should not be made, seems equally spread among members. I myself think ST VI:TUC is and should be the last film for the original cast. Don't get me wrong - I would like to see many more adventures, but realistically it just wouldn't work. Just because VI made a good profit doesn't automatically justify making ST VII. Where would it end? If ST

VII is made and is a financial success, then it'll be ST VIII, and this could go on ad infinitum! As the saying goes, 'go out on a high', and for me and many others ST VI is that high. ST VI was a damn good film on which to end the saga, which seems to have been the intention - so why ruin a beautiful finale?

I'm glad to see that Season 6 will get back to more science fiction/fantasy storytelling. Season 5 has been very good, but has suffered from having virtually all character stories; the usual balance of previous seasons has been missing.

A brief note on that boxed set of 3 CDs at £12.95. I'm sure the actual CDs are fine but the covers for each CD are just that - covers, without the additional photos and composer details that are on the American releases.

Finally a brief piece of news - Bill Shatner's Tek books are being turned into a comic series for Marvel.

P.S. - Is there anyone who would do me a copy of Brent Spiner's "Ol Yellow Eyes album, please?

Gloria Fry - Glasgow

It was a thrill to see the Radio Times 15-21st August with the delightful Kirk/Spock cover and a four-page article inside. What has happened to the BBC? I wrote to the Radio Times praising the cover and asking where I could get a copy of the photo. They sent me a personal reply with the address of the agency that holds the copyright. They warned me that it might be expensive but maybe it is worth enquiring. Scope Features, 26-29 St Cross St, Hatton Garden, London EC1N 8UH.

Contagion - there was a wonderful air of excitement during that weekend at the Central Hotel, Glasgow. George was absolutely delightful and I am sure his presence was a major reason for the atmosphere, but it was even more than that. Perhaps the uniquely Scottish feel made the difference. Whatever it was, all the elements came together to provide us with a weekend to remember. There was a full programme of

events for all tastes. There was no bickering between fans as reported about the May con. Everyone was friendly and happy. The hotel provided excellent cheap food. On the Monday everyone seemed to linger as if they didn't want to leave. Both the opening and closing ceremonies were real events. Who will ever forget the Klingons bursting in demanding a ransom for George? Who was not impressed by the sight of George wearing full Highland regalia? I have been told by others that this con was reminiscent of the cons of years ago; if so I regret discovering fandom only a few years ago. The Contagion committee are to be congratulated for their efforts in organising such an enjoyable convention.

To Martin Stahl - in a previous SF novel (can't remember the title) Vonda McIntyre had a main character called Hikaru. I guess she liked the name and decided to use it for Sulu in Entropy Effect.

To Chris Blenkarn - Your article was most interesting. I too have come across people who did not understand my sense of humour and have taken non-serious, light-hearted articles seriously. Everyone sees things differently and one can unintentionally cause offence.

To Kay Stagg - your hurt/comfort article was most illuminating as I have often wondered why Kirk fans like to see him suffer. I'm not sure that the maternal instinct is the main factor, but I do accept that it could be part of it. He does have a touch of the little boy in him. Spock also has that almost childlike innocence about him at times, so perhaps we women respond to that aspect of their characters.

Simon Plumbe - Birmingham

To James Mills - re: Picard's captaincy of the Stargazer. It was never stated how long Picard had captained that ship. As you said, in The Battle it stated that the Stargazer was lost 9 years previously after its historic 22 year mission. However, Picard was NOT the Captain for all that time. It's not unusual for a ship to have more than one Captain - remember April, Pike, Kirk and Decker?

To Eddie Yau - Oh boy, you've done it

again haven't you Eddie! First, your article on Kirk's Reaction in Trek VI. Although I agreed with you on most points (people DO change - it's fact), I felt that you destroyed your credibility a little by quoting the Klingon attack on the outpost where Carol Marcus was stationed, as described in the novel, as one of your sources. The novels have NEVER been accepted as being Trek "fact" and can not be judged as such. I don't know if you're aware of it, but the original opening to the film that was never filmed due to budget constraints saw Kirk and Marcus living together and she wasn't injured prior to or even during the events in the film.

However, I felt that you went over the top in your anti-TNG comment in the final paragraph. I've known you for a while and I know you don't like TNG, but there is no reason for you to criticise the show in every article you write. Leave the guys of the Enterprise-D alone a bit will you! I thought you would have learned about your anti-TNG attitude when you came up to see me!

I was also surprised to read that you said you thought a couple of episodes from Season 5 were "excellent" and that you are looking forward to DS9. Coming from someone that thinks Trek without Kirk et al isn't worth bothering with came as a bit of a shock!

Gaile Wood - Tamworth, Staffs.

Re N/L 23

By gum, the newsletter is a bit posh now, eh? Very professional, committee. 'T was money well spent, this new computer a.k.a. Archie.

As usual, my mouth is in overdrive, so I'll say this first and get it out of the way. Ladies, the arrival of said magazine *seriously* disrupts my day. Postman arrives, oldest daughter shouts, "There's a letter for you, mummy!"; husband says (bored tones) "It's bloody Star Trek again..." I gallop downstairs, rip open the envelope in two seconds flat (raffle tickets? Again?!), and commence reading. I do not resurface or do anything properly ("Mum! MUM!!! Can I set fire to the living room, and torture my sister, mum? Pleease, mum?" Me: "Yes... yes,

anything! SHUTUP!!!) until the entire N/L has been read from cover to cover. Ah me!

The reports from Contagion were, as usual, most interesting. Especially the writers' panels. What struck me as particularly intriguing was what Jean Lorrah said about 'Human' androids. Hmm... Most of the androids 'invented' by SF writers conform to the Robotic Laws as laid down by Asimov. Where does Paramount stand on this then with regard to copyright?

To Cathy Halford (and indirectly, Kolorth vestai Karasta): I rather like the theories you put forward about those knobbly bits on Klingons.

However (if I'm to regard Cathy's as possible), if this is true *why* does their armour (has anybody noticed how Klingons *squeak* when they move [like they could do with lubricating]? Cor... all that *leather* rubbing together...!) cover those very ridges supposedly evolved for cooling? They ought to be exposed to the air to work properly, and Worf's are covered up all the time. Seriously, what I thought it could be was to help augment their strong sense of smell, and perhaps as a resonating chamber like in elephant seals or certain kinds of dinosaur. Hence their, generally, deep voices. The ones down the spine could be vestigial, or maybe just a turn on for lady (I use the term *very* loosely) Klingons. As in instead of "Let me run my fingers through your hair, my love," to "I'm going to... (groowwl...) *rake* my... (snuffle, lick) *nails* down your knobbly bits... (bite, gnaw, chew) darlin'!" Huh?

I have other grave doubts about Klingons too. Their aging for one. Just how long are they supposed to live? From Alexander's apparent age one would suppose their lifespan to be short, but that's so inconsistent with them being a technological race. A species with reasonable intelligence have offspring with extended childhood to enable them to learn everything that's required for survival. I'd've thought *all* intelligent species, and I do include Klingons even though there are doubts, to be the same.

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl: Thank you

for reviewing my story in MIS 8; it's always good to have feedback (I was particularly chuffed when you said the characters were clear and accurate as I work hard on it). Never-the-less, I must point out you are incorrect when you state there is no word in English as 'symbiont'. There most certainly is; I checked it very carefully in my dictionaries. They state symbiont - noun: an organism living in a state of symbiosis. C19: < Greek *symbioun* to live together, < *bioun* to live - symbiotic *adj*, symbiotically *adv*. (Yup, I'm a pedant too!)

Your other point about stardates was something I've struggled with myself. The reasons I don't use 'em is that I want it quite clear I'm not relying on any episodes for plot. If I use one, I make certain it's outside of those already in use e.g. 4*8*123.4.. I try to extrapolate *only* the characters as I see them, and how the actors play them *without* touching on aired Trek.

Shirley Shatner - Winsford, Cheshire

To Karen Davis - I agree, there should not be another classic Trek film, Star Trek VI was one of the best yet and it is possible that STVII would not be as good which would probably be the last film. That would mean that classic Trek would end on a downer, which would be a shame.

To Gorla Fry - DS9 sounds interesting, another single father is o.k, but it would be better if he was a father of a daughter or even two! It would make things more complex, how would he deal with her dating? I would also like to see more women in Star Trek, and in stronger roles.

To Julie Burton - Riker and Shelby? I would love to see the fireworks. That would not, I think, be a marriage made anywhere. They would make a dynamic duo in command and would also be fun to watch, for no doubt Shelby would still be after Riker's job.

To Taruka Quauhtexcatl. No, its not just you, I think Paramount erred. I clearly recall the revelation regarding Sybok's parentage.

To Pam Baddely - I remember reading somewhere that Counselors are required, by law, to have a Counselor themselves. I suppose it's due to the pressure of the work. Dealing with other people's problems as well as your own could cause major problems.

Jean Barron - Manor Park, London

As a member of the SOL III committee, I would like to comment on Helen White's report on SOL III 92 (N/L 22) and Lee Sansone's article in N/L 23. The first point I would like to make is that the Sunday evening theme party was NOT cancelled - it was held in the Warwick Suite (Ten Forward) as had always been intended, with a small 'overflow' area at that end on the main hall. The theatre-style seating in the rest of the main hall was left unaltered, ready for Monday's programme - fortunately, as it turned out! When a near-riot developed outside the TNG video room (no, I am not being over-dramatic), the only way to defuse the situation was to set the video projector up for TNG episodes in the main hall. The tech team were enjoying a well-earned meal at that time but, realising the seriousness of the situation, they were quick to respond. The smug-complacent troublemakers were thus accommodated and a nasty incident avoided. The whole thing was deeply distressing to the SOL III committee, the security team, and especially to the steward on duty, who was threatened with physical violence.

Having attributed this incredibly boorish behaviour to a few selfish and moronic attendees (I will not use the term 'fans' to describe them), we had decided to gloss over the incident since, thankfully, the majority of fans seemed unaware that anything untoward had happened. However, we now feel that we should correct the false impression that both Helen and Lee (an possibly others) had given, and we apologise if the location of the theme party was inadequately publicised. [Janet: Helen and Lee only reported the situation as they saw it.]

What most people will have noticed, however, is that we had a number of problems with programming - not the least being the huge delay caused by a marathon

business meeting. This, of course, resulted in our having to make considerable changes in the remainder of the day's programming. Could we have foreseen that the meeting would overrun by 45 minutes? Personally, I cannot recall a business meeting lasting longer than its allotted hour, so perhaps we could be excused for not anticipating a double-length session(!). Other changes affecting the TNG episodes were necessary for technical reasons, i.e. some of the episodes were equipped with 'senssurround' sound and one of the VCRs was unsuitable, so there was some swapping around. We never stop learning from our mistakes and, should we be asked to organise a convention in the future, we would do our utmost to ensure that this situation didn't arise again.

I would like to thank Lee for her timely article, reminding fans of the many problems involved in putting a convention together. The growing faction of those who are obsessed by TNG to the exclusion of everything else, and who apparently believe that the interests of others should be sacrificed to accommodate them, only serves to exacerbate the situation. The only alternative would be for separate conventions for TNG alone - some fans might think this is a good idea, but I would hate to see it happen. We should be working to keep everyone together, not deliberately creating a rift. Incidentally, the SOL III committee has already come to the conclusion that the main hall at conventions should be kept for 'live' items only - guest talks, auctions, parties, fancy dress, disco, etc. Great minds...?!

Peter Arnett - London

How about this suggestion (re - the third series Star Trek: DS9); Perhaps more chronicles of the voyages of Captain April, Captain Winter and Captain Pike could be highlighted in the format of ST:DS9 albeit whether it's set in an alternate universe or in time warp 'flashbacks' as it were. Or ST:TNG could utilize same?

Questions

Michael Hartley - Hull: Has anyone ever estimated the cost of building any of the Enterprises? Obviously we could not include

any of the things we cannot make now, eg warp drive, holodeck, etc.

Lesley Hatch - Warley, West Midlands:

Does anyone know who originated the background noise which can be heard on the original Star Trek? It also appeared on the 1963 Twilight Zone episode On Thursday We Left for Home.

Suggestions

Michael Mazza - Belper, Derbyshire: Rather than publish the fiction exclusively as separate editions, why not put the occasional single short story into the regular newsletter when/if other material may be low. This way, anyone who cannot afford/does not want to buy special editions, will still get some fictional stuff. [*Janet: So far we haven't had room. In addition most of the short stories are 8+ pages and would therefore take up a lot of space.*]

Why not review the comic-book series from both shows, encouraging members to pick up some of the better storylines (even if they may lie outside 'official' Trek continuity like the stories when Kirk commanded the Excelsior between movies III and IV and met up with Redjac (from "Wolf in the Fold") and also their Mirror Universe counterparts (from Mirror Mirror and now available as a fairly affordable trade paperback) along a 20th Anniversary story where the crew met themselves, from twenty years ago (after the timewarp back to the 23rd century in the episode Tomorrow Is Yesterday, took them too far forward)). The current storyline takes place prior to ST6 with Sulu having just taken command of the Excelsior. Best advice is to concentrate on the DC Series which tie in to the existing ST universe. And the Debt of Honour graphic novel is very highly recommended. [*Janet: We will consider for publication in the newsletter reviews of anything related to Star Trek.*]

Have you any suggestions as to the 'official' time-line from Captain Robert April through to Captain Picard? Was there really another five year mission following ST-TMP and what happened between that and ST2, and what caused the Enterprise to become a 'training ship' at the start of that movie?

[Janet: Your guess is as good as ours. The only facts we have are those given in the series and movies - anything else is speculation. A 'time-line' is to be published shortly but the decision as to whether to accept it will rest with the reader. For me it would have had more weight if it had been published with Gene's blessing before his death.]

Why not do some biographies on yourselves, the editorial team, as I'm certain that everyone (well, I would, anyway) would be interested? *[Janet: we'd hate to bore everyone and suspect most members would prefer to read about Trek.]*

☆☆☆☆

REC-CON

The 34th British Star Trek Convention 28-31 August, 1992

GUEST TALK - D C FONTANA

reported by Helen White

Saturday)

As a background to her talk, Dorothy had a (silent) video running; it consisted of clips of episodes that she'd written. I found it slightly distracting, especially during the This Side of Paradise and Journey to Babel clips, as they're two of my favourite episodes.

Dorothy has been involved in Trek from the start; she has worked on the original series, the animateds, TNG and has just recently been assigned a script for DS9.

In 1964 she was Gene's secretary while he was working on The Lieutenant; Gene had been playing with some ideas, and one day he handed her eight pages of story, asking her to read it. She told him that she really liked it, especially Spock; he pushed an 8 x 10 photograph of Leonard Nimoy across the desk. Incidentally, Leonard was the only one ever considered for the role; it was never offered to Martin Landau, as has been written elsewhere.

The first pilot was filmed and, as we all know, rejected; when it came to filming the second pilot Jeffrey Hunter objected to certain things and so did his wife! He was therefore 'lost'. As Dorothy said, he "probably kicked himself round the block thirty or forty thousand times!" Another interesting snippet: Jack Lord (as in Hawaii Five-O) was considered for Kirk but rejected, as he wanted

50% ownership of the show....

When Trek began Dorothy was still Gene's secretary and had therefore typed several scripts; as she said, she really knew it as well as Gene then. She said that she'd like to write a script herself; Gene asked her which idea she wanted to use and she picked Charlie X.

The next script that she did was Tomorrow is Yesterday; it was almost a second part of The Naked Time, but John D F Black left the show and Dorothy asked Gene if she could do it. She said that one of the things that made the script such fun to do was the way that Kirk tried to do everything right and it all kept going wrong.

Midway through the first season she decided to turn freelance writer so she left the 'regular' staff. Gene called her in to see whether she could sort out a script that they had problems with; it was called The Way of the Spores and had Sulu falling in love. Dorothy immediately said that it would work better if it were Spock who fell in love, and rewrote the thing, ending up with This Side of Paradise. Dorothy says that she was a little worried when she first saw Jill Ireland - "she looked like a hippy" - but Jill turned out to be very professional.

Following the successful rewrite of the

aforementioned script Dorothy became story editor; she was only twenty-seven years old at the time and was one of the youngest editors in town.

She said that the crew were wonderful, the actors superb, and there was "a real crusade to make this good"; they were trying to make the best show that they could. They were also trying to squash the prevailing 'aliens are bad' atmosphere.

A lot of the characters' backgrounds was contributed by the actors; at the end of season one, Dorothy got them all to tell her what they felt about their characters and put the resulting information in the season two notes. For example, she'd suggested to DeForest Kelley that Doctor McCoy have a son; he said that a daughter seemed better.

While story editor she did a lot of rewriting, although she didn't get credited for much of it; screen credit was only given where most or all of the episode was rewritten.

She rewrote Friday's Child, although in the end she wasn't happy with it; she'd wanted Eelen to be "a vicious selfish bitch who would sacrifice her own child for what she wanted" but Gene disagreed.

Journey to Babel is her favourite of the episodes that she's written. She told us that she doesn't get any credit when Sarek and Amanda are used in other people's scripts/novels, even though she invented them, although because of the trouble over that there is now a clause in all writers' contracts about it; the 'inventor' gets \$2000 each time their character is used.

Dorothy developed the Kirk/Spock/McCoy relationship; she said that it didn't start out as important but De Kelley is an excellent actor and Doctor McCoy became an important character.

She always tries to involve all the main characters in her scripts so that all the actors have something to do; it was much easier with original Trek as there were fifty-four minutes of 'story-telling time' available. With

TNG and DS9 that's gone down to forty-one minutes because of all the extra commercials that are shown these days, and that impacts on the story; there's less time for a sub-plot.

She was only peripherally involved in season three of original Trek; she said that she wouldn't comment too much as she wasn't there.... it was pretty clear from what she did say that she was unimpressed.

After Trek she wrote various scripts, including a lot of Westerns; then in 1973 Gene called her and told her that there was to be an animated Trek. He convinced her that there would be no loss of quality on the original and she became associate producer and story editor. She said that doing the animateds was fun; they were able to do all sorts of things that would have been impossible in a live-action setting.

In 1977 Star Wars and Close Encounters were released; Paramount suddenly woke up to the fact that they had 'something like that' and in due course along came ST:TMP. Dorothy said that she wasn't entirely happy to see Trek on the big screen; there were too many effects and not enough people. She was happier with TWOK; it was a people story.

She worked on Fantastic journey and Logan's Run - it was fun working with Leonard Katzman who was "very like Gene" - although both series were badly affected by the networks moving them around the schedules (sound familiar?)

In 1986 she attended the 20th Anniversary party at Paramount; Gene had already invented TNG, and in late November he called her in to help on Encounter at Farpoint. She wrote the script, then Gene rewrote it and added Q. He asked her to be story editor, then associate producer, although the latter was at her own request.

After the first thirteen episodes she left; she wanted to work on films. She's written a film set in Ireland, a Western, a psychothriller and a 'contemporary women's drama' (she didn't mention any titles).

She married Dennis (Skotak) - "I'm often a special effects widow!" - and has five cats.

At this point, Dorothy finished her talk and opened up the floor for questions.

She's writing an outline for a Trek novel based around Joanna McCoy.

She wanted to do a TNG 'Sarek goes to the Romulans to negotiate a treaty' story in which the Romulans send a message back to the Federation saying Sarek is dead. Spock is sent to collect the body and is told that it's been cremated; however, he starts hearing Sarek's voice in his head - "I'm not dead". This story was rejected....

When she wrote Yesteryear she wanted to do a 'pet-death' story; she's very proud that NBC didn't get a single letter of complaint about the episode.

Dorothy said that DS9 is 'a sort of tribute to Gene'; it came about after he died.

Finally, I asked what Spock's other name actually was; "you couldn't pronounce it."

(Sunday)

A lot of DS9 information has been printed in the last n/1; I have therefore only mentioned new items here.

Dorothy has seen some of the set drawings; the promenade on the space station and the concessions area which is two storeys high.

The wormhole in DS9 is an alien-made stable wormhole which crosses the galaxy - the equivalent of 'sixty years at warp nine' - and which makes DS9 "something like an international airport."

Sisko, the commander, is to be played by Avery Brooks - "he does have hair, by the way" - and his son Jake is a totally normal twelve year-old who wants to settle on a planet; he's always lived in space so far.

The First Officer is a very aggressive Bajora, who is also the co-ordinator between the Bajora and the Federation.

As we know, Miles O'Brien is the chief engineer; he'll be having lots of problems with the space station 'innards' and will have a very active role. He will still be played by Colm Meaney. Keiko will move to DS9 with him, not surprisingly.

Dorothy is writing a script in which the old Trill suppresses the youthful instincts of its host, Jadzia Daks.

Odo, the shapeshifter, is middle-aged and very alien. About fifty years ago he was found alone on a ship with no memory of his past. He will do at least one 'shift' per show, although it's uncomfortable for him. Whatever he shifts to has to have the same mass; he can't change into a pencil, for example. He can only hold the shape for about eight hours; after that he becomes liquid, then reforms. He can't form himself into other people, only shapes. Odo does not like Quark, the Ferengi bar-tender.

Lwaxana Troi and Guinan may both be making guest appearances; there may be a young Ferengi named Nog appearing, who is 'a bad boy' and the only other person Jake's age on the station.

Ensign Ro will definitely not be appearing.

The pilot is being filmed now (ie August/September) and will probably be shown in late September in the US. Goodness only knows when we'll get it in the UK....

There will seldom be any crossover DS9/TNG stories; DS9 will take off in its own direction.

The accent will be more on characters than action, although there will be action of course; the emphasis will be more on relationships. This doesn't mean 'Dallas in Space' though, thinks Dorothy.

We're almost certainly guaranteed

three seasons of DS9 because the studio won't make money on it otherwise.

So far, they've only cast a couple of roles; Avery Brooks and the Doctor, who will be played by an Egyptian actor.

Gene is unlikely to get any screen credit on DS9, except possibly 'based on Star Trek etc'. Dorothy didn't know whether he'd have approved of DS9 but she thought he'd have approved the direction that it was going in.

It's possible that Patrick and/or Jonathan may direct (an) episode(s).

(Non-DS9 information)

Advice for budding script-writers: Dorothy said that writing involves a lot of staring into space! The biggest thing (obviously) is the input at the keyboard; Gene used to say that a writer has to write a million

words per year and write for three years before they're any good. When your work sounds good to total strangers, you're on your way. You need to have a feeling for character and dialogue - how people express themselves - so need to be very observant. It's definitely harder for women to break into script-writing; that's partly why Dorothy writes as D C Fontana, so that it's not obvious that she's female. It's much easier for a woman to get a novel published.

It's still not settled as to whether we've seen the last of the original cast on film; however, Richard Arnold (who was at the con but not as a guest) said that Bill Shatner has just moved into an office at Paramount and has a potential script for ST:VII....

Kirk is probably still alive at the time of TNG; after all, McCoy is still going strong and he's older than Jim.

☆☆☆☆

THE ATTACK OF THE MUNDANES FROM ANOTHER WORLD (WELL, JAPAN AND THE USA ACTUALLY, AND THERE WERE SOME BRITS TOO)

Oh dear, another of Helen White's con reports....

Saturday

Having got up at 5.00am, urgh, I set off for Manchester at 5.30. At that time there was very little traffic on the motorways, so I made good time and arrived just after 9.00am. I parked in the local rip-off garage, er, I mean NCP, and carted my luggage over to the hotel.

The Piccadilly is a funny old place; reception is on the second floor, as is the car park (this was pointed out to me later in the day, whereupon I moved my car - the hotel parking was free) so if you enter on the ground floor the only way up is.... the Lifts. I have never before, in fourteen cons and my whole life, encountered slower lifts; as well as being slow, they lurched horribly, especially on journeys between one floor and the next. Anyway, I digress. Having sorted out my

room and registration, I dumped everything therein (in the room of course, not in the registration.... oh dear, I've started already) and repaired to the dealers room. I then discovered that there were two rooms and that Sheila and Valerie were, naturally enough, not in the first one I tried. I eventually located them and had a jolly good chat; I also bought some rather spiffy jewellery from the Guide Dog bit of their table.

Having announced my presence, I toddled back down to the main hall and found myself a seat. I should just mention at this point that none of the three advertised guests had shown up; I missed the opening ceremony so I don't know why. Instead, we had D C Fontana, Dennis Skotak (Mr Fontana, so to speak), Brian Cosgrove and

Jackie Cockle (both from Cosgrove Hall; more on this later) and Alan Burrows (as far as I could gather he does artwork for the Red Dwarf comics). This meant that the con was something of a break for me, as I didn't have to spend the entire time writing at high speed!

First up was Dennis Skotak. He and his brother and sister-in-law run a special effects company called 4-Ward Productions; they have produced effects for Terminator, Aliens, Batman: The Return and Tremors, plus many others. He started by running a video of film clips showing their work; it was extremely fascinating (ahem) but I could have done with being warned that there were horrid bits in it.... I'm mainly thinking of an atomic explosion scene which I'm told is a dream sequence from Terminator. He then showed us some slides of many of the same effects and explained how they'd been done; finding, for example, that the mushroom cloud that had started the 'nasty' sequence was actually made of polyester fibre and lightbulbs suddenly made me feel much happier. Odd.

After Dennis's talk I returned to the dealers rooms and did a moderate amount of shopping (ie: having saved about £15 on parking charges, I then spent same on zines and badges. Ho hum.) I chatted to several people, then returned to the main hall for the next guest talk. I don't know why I bothered to get there on time; I've been to enough cons to know that they always run late. Still, I used the time to chat to Dave Simons and the rest of the Warp One committee, who are running next year's May con.

The next guests were Brian Cosgrove and Jackie Cockle from Cosgrove Hall Productions: you know who they are - they made/make Dangermouse, Count Duckula, Wind in the Willows and Truckers. Brian is a great chap; he said that we're all linked by an appreciation of story-telling 'beyond the norm'. He used to enjoy original Trek (he didn't say whether he'd seen any TNG), The Twilight Zone and "that terrible thing, Lost in Space!" He'd re-watched The Cage the previous Wednesday; he said that we all knew that the sets were pretty bad but that it

didn't matter because the story was so good. He said that he thinks of animation as the art of the impossible; something that it shares with Trek is 'the magic of story-telling'. He hadn't been to a con before and thought it fascinating.(!)

Having made Truckers, Cosgrove Hall now want to produce Diggers and Wings, the other two parts of the trilogy: Terry Pratchett is very keen, but they're waiting on the TV companies. They're currently making Noddy, which is being trailed on the BBC as coming this Autumn.

Following that very enjoyable talk was the auction, at which point I left the hall; I was trying to save money (ha ha - no chance). I went up to the art room and looked at all the exhibits - they were as superb as they usually are and in my opinion the best things were a pair of (I think) scraperboard drawings of Kirk and Spock by Sue Embury. After that I investigated the zine library, which was in the same room, and added a few titles to my 'wants' list, then wandered between dealers rooms chatting to friends. Soon it was time to return to the main hall for D C Fontana's talk (see elsewhere) during which I *was* obliged to write at top speed!

After her talk I went out to MacDonald's for supper, then returned to the hotel and found myself in the lift with two very bewildered Mundanes (note for them as don't know: a Mundane is one of those 'normal' people that don't know about Trek/cons/fandom etc) Apart from my favourite Spock T-shirt I was dressed 'normally', and I think that they felt safer with me than the horde in the other lift! One of them timidly asked me what was happening, and on hearing my reply ("it's a Star Trek convention", said in a cheerfully normal voice; I resisted the temptation to go "blibble, blibble" or anything similar, although it was an effort!) they couldn't get out of the lift fast enough! Oh dear....

I returned to my room and sorted out my belongings, then wandered down to watch the fancy dress, intending to have an early night.... First of all I got roped into

stewarding for said fancy dress, although it was great fun and there were some excellent entries; one of which was a cringingly awful pun. A chap whose name I've forgotten (sorry) came on and powdered his nose, then went off and returned wearing a crown, then went off and returned to powder his nose again. (Now, brace yourself - this is a really bad pun) I guessed 'King, powder, king', which apart from not making any sense was sort of getting there; it was actually "Asimov's Foundation and Empire trilogy." Aaaaargh!

Having finished our stint as bouncers(!) Maureen and I found a quiet (for a con....) corner for a drink and a chat; I eventually retired to bed at 1am due to an inability to remain uprightzzzzzzzz.

Sunday

I awoke at 7.00, and after a bath (exciting, eh?) watched TV while I got dressed; there was an enthralling Open University programme on called Modelling Cranes.... I tore myself away from the screen and went down to breakfast, yummy. Q. in all his magisterial robes (as in Encounter at Farpaint) was at breakfast; it was Kerry Endacott actually, in one of his brilliant costumes.

After brekker I returned to the dealers rooms - did I say something about not spending money? Ha ha - and then went to steward outside the main hall for a while. I rescued several rather bemused "how-do-I-get-in?" people; because the hotel reception and the con registration desk were on the second floor, they'd bypassed it and arrived at the main hall.

Once I'd done my stewarding bit I went into the hall.... mistake! The auction was still running. Mind you, I managed to restrain myself at first, although following the main auction was the adult auction. The auctioneers (Rog Peyton and Dave with-the-long-hair-I-think-his-name-is-Hill) spent literally five minutes announcing that the adult auction was about to start, and would anyone likely to be offended or underage people please leave the hall. This seems adequate warning; yet the committee

apparently had four complaints. Ho hum.

The auction was obliged to move after a short time so that the main hall programme could keep to time, gosh, so we repaired to the stewards' room for the 'second half'. There were about twenty die-hards in there, plus Rog, Dave and the auction 'staff'; we each paid a pound to the con charity for the privilege of hearing said chaps doing some of those famous readings of theirs! Prices were high; one zine went for £60, eek.

Having paid for my purchases (yes, I succumbed to temptation) and stashed them in my room I wound (ahem) my way back to, yes, the dealers rooms, where I ordered some badges from the Ferengi Bazaar. I then went back to the main hall - I seem to have spent the weekend zooming about, don't I? It didn't feel like that at the time! - and caught the end of Kluedo ("We think it was Kang in Engineering with the Phaser"), after which it was time for Dorothy F's second talk (see the same elsewhere as before).

Following that I milled around - if one person can mill - and nattered to the various con bid committees, who were all incredibly nervous, poor lambs. The T'Kon committee kindly gave me some helium-filled balloons - they were handing them out as 'advertising'. I then had to steward, although I listened to the Business Meeting from round the corner, and was joined by Maureen again; while we were listening to the con bids, we sorted out her trading cards and checked badges. Eventually the vote was taken; Archon won - congratulations. They'll be holding their con in London, which means that both major cons in '94 will be in the City; much as this is great for me and my fellow Southerners, it's pretty bad for all the folk up North. It's a pity that it can't be a rule that you can't have two major cons in the same place in the same year; I don't know how it could be managed though, because the bids have to be prepared ages in advance of the con that they're presented at.

Talking of rules, I think that it's about time that it was made a rule that people wear their con badge where it's obvious (ie not under jackets etc) unless they're in a costume

that they don't want to make holes in; I say this because I got some abuse from certain people when I asked to see their badges. Okay, I recognised them, but there were first-timers there stewarding (mad fools!) and they're obviously not going to recognise 'old-stagers'. Right, end of complaint.

Where was I? Oh yes. After the meeting, Maureen and I registered for Archon; it's the lowest number con registration I've ever had, what fun. We then tootled off to the local chippy - I love 'proper' fish and chips, and then stood in the wind eating. And when I say wind, I mean WIND. Maureen tells me that it's normal to have that kind of wind in Manchester; all I can say is that I'm glad I'm the weight I am, otherwise I'd have been halfway down the street!

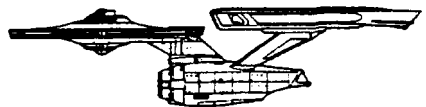
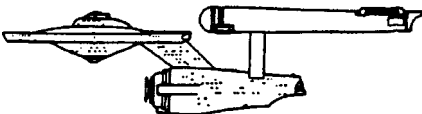
Somewhat windswept, we returned to the hotel and Dennis Skotak's next 'talk' - it was actually another video, which was just as interesting as the previous one. Unfortunately I'd missed Alan Burrows's talk as it had had to be rescheduled and when I returned from supper I found that it was almost finished.

Maureen and I had to leave Dennis's talk slightly early, due to stewarding obligations; we both went down to the ops room (I'm a veterinary nurse; 'ops room' always makes me think of work....) About half-way through our time there the hotel manager appeared in a state of severe distress. Before I explain why (let's have a bit of suspense) I'll just mention the hotel staff. The 'ordinary' staff were excellent; very friendly. The 'management', on the other hand, couldn't manage their way out of a paper bag. For example: Sheila and Valerie had booked a twin room; they were given

two singles. Fair enough so far; however, one room was on the fifth floor and the other on the eighth! Valerie then discovered that there was another bed in her room anyway.... Right, back to the distressed gentleman. He blurted out a story that one of the con attendees was in the open-to-the-public-as-well bar with "no trousers or underwear on". I felt it my duty as a reporter to investigate this (actually I'd been rather fortuitously asked to go and steward up at the main hall, on the same floor as the aforementioned bar), so I went with a committee member and the manager up to the bar; before we got that far, we met Pat Lennon - for it was he - in the lobby bit next to the lifts. He was actually wearing a basque and G-string (plus a flying helmet!) in preparation for the evening's party; none of the con attendees were taking any notice, but apparently some Mundane(s) was/were dreadfully shocked. How sad. After this anticlimax, and the manager having been calmed down, we returned to the ops room - I wasn't needed at the hall, in the end - where I managed to lose a large mouthful of coke all over myself (don't ask!) Maureen and I filled the last minutes of our duty period in letting the helium out of the balloons and into our lungs ("don't try this at home, children"). This, in case you don't know, makes your voice sound like Mickey Mouse.... and no, not permanently (the mind boggles). We then went down to reception, where I discovered the source of all the Japanese people that had been around over the weekend; there was a noticeboard in the lobby addressed - in Japanese - to the 'Kirin Beer Company' tour.

At 8.30, I left the hotel - I had to work on the Monday, grumble grumble - and eventually arrived back home at 1am, plug.

☆☆☆☆



THOUGHTS ON REC-CON

by Stephen Shaw

Living close to Manchester, it was possible to travel in each day and save on the cost of hotel rooms - finances are a trifle tight.

This was the first convention I have been to (and probably the last for a while unless another is held in Manchester some time!)

To be fair, the three lifts of the Hotel Piccadilly were probably not designed for a convention split between floors AND between hotels. I think most attendees will remember the lifts. You got a feeling as you stood there, with several chairs for you to sit in while waiting, and with a nice big clock in front of you to time your wait, that there just might be a problem. The most frustrating thing of all though was the absence of an alternative stairway - you were FORCED to use (and hence wait for) the lift.

The hotel has recently changed hands, and the new owners seemed to be trying fairly hard, with lunches available at prices you would find hard to beat almost anywhere, and sandwiches at very reasonable prices. The coffee was superb.

Unfortunately, as with all big hotels, there were no maps, and signposting was a trifle inadequate. I don't know where the game room was - I must admit my interest was insufficient to ask anyone, but I was wandering around for four days and saw no sign of it!

The organisers also slipped up with one of the dealers' rooms. I was not terribly impressed, walking through a door CLEARLY marked ENTRANCE to be told I'd used the wrong door, it was an EXIT! Subsequently an exit sign appeared on it - but the misleading Entrance sign was still there too. The dealers' rooms were just a trifle cramped, and I think sales would have been higher if more people could have got to the stalls. I tried again on Sunday, when it WAS quieter - mainly due to the closure of many of the stalls. Those

dealers who stayed on got my money. Those who left early got none. *[Sheila - I would like to point out, Stephen, that IDIC's was one of the tables that closed early, and it wasn't from choice - we had to leave just after lunchtime in order to get home on Sunday night; and people running some of the other tables were probably in the same position. Not all of us had the Monday off.]*

There were two video rooms (the main hall was also used for some videos) with fifth season TNG episodes across the road in the Britannia, a lovely but apparently quite understaffed hotel. Five rooms were in use there, so there was never undue overcrowding.

The video room in the Piccadilly however could have been filled twice over for the blooper reel. I did hear mention of the blooper reel being shown again on Monday, but failed to obtain any details - if there was a notice board anywhere, as a four day attendee I failed to find it!

The two presentations by D C Fontana were very interesting, especially the details on DS9, which sounds a little better now with a NORMAL 12-year-old boy and a shape changer who cannot impersonate anyone.

There was a small programme of Classic episodes, a smaller programme of animated episodes, and some 'other' SF. I was very pleased to see the LWT series KINVIG, a comedy SF show. Also shown were the full versions of FROM ONE GENERATION TO THE NEXT, the 25th Anniversary show, and the 'electronic' press kit that launched TNG.

I managed 19 5th season episodes, 7 classic, 1 animated, 3 specials and 4 non-Trek. The fifth season has some superb shows, including quite a lot of location shots. Remember the first season episode in which Wesley was sentenced to death? (Who could forget it?) That location is reused as Starfleet Academy.

My wife attended with me Saturday, and my 8-year-old on Saturday and Monday, both in full 1st season TNG uniforms, attracting the attention of the local press and several photographers. I had a Classic top.

Enjoyable, well worth every penny,
and I would not hesitate to attend again next

year - if it were held in Manchester. Many thanks to the organisers.

I had a great time at Rec-con (although I think it should be re-named 'wreck'-con, the way I felt on the Monday....) and met lots of friends old and new; hello everybody

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

NE'A'DRLAR V: THE THIRTEENTH CON

by Helen White

THE STORY SO FAR.... Our intrepid reporter has just spent a week in Scotland, attending Contagion and then visiting Janet, Sheila & co for a great holiday, finally arriving home on Friday evening.

Saturday Morning

[illegible]

Saturday Afternoon

Having prised myself out of bed and had breakfast, er, lunch, I drove to Reading and collected Jo and Jim; we then went to the Runnymede Hotel in Egham to meet up with the rest of the gang, including most of the Ne'a'driar committee. From there we travelled by coach to the Thames at Hampton and spent the evening on a river-boat trip. We chugged along the river for a couple of hours, passing lots of geese, swans, ducks and a heron, as well as a rather impressive weir; we enjoyed ourselves making impolite remarks about the gardens backing onto the river. During the first part of our trip we had the music from STIV playing; very atmospheric. We eventually arrived back at the hotel at about eleven o'clock, if memory serves, and after the short drive home collapsed into bed, zzzzz again.

Sunday

After a leisurely breakfast we drove back to the hotel and took ourselves into the banqueting suite, where the con was being held. The hotel, never having hosted a bunch of Trekkers before, seemed a little nervous; indeed, we were not permitted to enter the main part of the building!

First stop was the stewards' meeting, where we selected our preferred duties; very civilised. After that, we made for the dealers room, oh dear. I decided that I'd buy some trading cards, and also acquired a few more zines for my collection - does anyone know where I could get a Tardis? I could just do with the extra space. Jo and I then sat in a corner and sorted out all the cards, which took quite a long time. Our sorting was interrupted by the opening ceremony, at which the committee and guests were introduced. The latter included June Hudson, who designed costumes for Blake's Seven, Bert Luxford, who invented some of James Bond's 'accessories' for the films and Stuart Clark, who is a contributor to TV Zone and Starburst. After the ceremony, we returned to the dealers room and chatted to various friends - hello Richard, Tom, and everyone else. At noon, Jim and I took over the registration desk for a while, which was great fun, and met a few new faces, plus putting a few faces to familiar names; hello Jon! I also sorted out a poor bewildered press man, who appeared to be slightly apprehensive about the whole thing....

After being relieved by Miri (Rana) we had lunch. The hotel couldn't grasp the idea of con food, apparently, and had kept asking the committee 'exactly how many attendees' would be coming, so that they could prepare exactly the right amount of food.... I then went off to the Art Room and sat for an hour practising Japanese and chatting to yet more people - not at the same time, I hasten to add.

Next on the agenda was the charity

auction. For the first time in ages I splashed out and bought an item (a TNG lunchbox, which cost me £5.00, how extravagant.) Following the auction we all milled around aimlessly chatting again, and then zoomed into the main hall for the famous Ne'a'driar quiz. As usual, this was great fun; this time, our team, Spock's Whoopi Cushion (NOT my idea, well, not entirely anyway), was made up of people of Varied Knowledge, ie we knew about most of the topics between us. At the end of a hard contest we found ourselves tying for first place with two other teams. A tie-breaker took place after which two of us still tied, and the committee decided that we could both have a prize, hooray.

By now it was getting late and it was time for the closing ceremony; we discovered that the charity auction had raised approximately £400, I actually won a prize in

the raffle (!) and the two quiz teams got their certificates and a Starfleet biro each. I can't remember what the other team called themselves, but Tom Paterson was in it; well fought, chaps.

After the closing ceremony we decided to toddle off home, mainly because I was jolly tired (I must be getting old, ha ha) and got home in time for a good night's sleep, having stopped en route at a Little Chef apparently staffed by the grumpiest people in the universe....

As usual, the Ne'a'driar gang put on a brilliant con and we can't wait for the next one!

P.S. The title refers to the fact that Ne'a'driar V was the thirteenth convention that I've been to, in case you're wondering.

☆☆☆☆

CONTAGION '92 - or THE KLINGONS ARE COMING

Con report by Morag Phillips

I have never been to a full-blown convention before, but after Contagion '92 I can't wait to go to another! Having managed only one day of Silvercon and about half of the Away Team meetings meantime, I knew that I was in for a good time. But nothing had prepared me for just how much fun I was going to have.

From the 'Flight Safety' video before the Opening Ceremony, through the uproarious Ceremony itself (buy the con video for this if for no other reason), through the various guest talks, slide shows, video viewings and auctions to the Closing Ceremony on Monday lunchtime, there was never a dull moment.

I made new friends (hello Katrina, Heather, Jean, Anne and Janice), spent a fortune in the Dealers' Room, goggled at the superb pieces in the Art Room, relaxed in the Zine Library, gawped in amazement during the Charity Auction (I had wandered in by mistake and ended up staying to the end), clapped my hands raw at the guests, howled

with laughter during George Takei's hilarious Alton Towers story (and others), traced the history of Man's exploration of Space in the Final Frontier exhibition, swallowed tears as George spoke movingly of Gene Roddenberry's last months, groaned at Doomwatch in the Multi-media Room (I was on stewarding duty, honest!) and grinned like a lunatic for the rest of Monday (and Tuesday and Wednesday...) after George presented me with the first prize in the 'not so short short story' category of the writing competition.

Funny thing is, though, over the three days I think I only saw about eight episodes of Trek, there was just so much else going on! I reasoned that although I can catch up with episodes either on video or at Away Team meetings, I may never see George Takei in the flesh again and I will certainly never have the same conversations with new friends again. A good bargain, I thought.

All credit for the Convention must go to the Contagion Committee who had obviously spend months preparing the event.

Their care and attention to detail showed (down to presenting the Hotel representative with a dozen boxes of chocolates to share among the staff who had been so tolerant of the hundreds of mad Trekkies who had laid siege to their hotel over the weekend). This was obviously a con organised for fans by people who are fans themselves. I look forward to next year's event with the confident expectation that the committee will pull the rabbit out of the hat again! (Incidentally, is there any truth in the rumour that the committee is trying to get William Shatner for next year?)

convention in a year (like me), then make it the Glasgow Con next July. If it is only half the event Contagion '92 turned out to be, it will be something to remember!

PS - The Saturday after the con I broke down in Largs and the AA man who came to my rescue spotted my 1701-D badge and immediately began to tell me that the Monday evening after the con he had seen George Takei in full dress kilt standing by a broken down car on the M8. I just hope that breaking down on the M8 didn't spoil George's trip to Scotland.

Finally, then, if you only get to one
☆☆☆☆☆

EPISODE GUIDE - U.S. SCREENING ORDER

Pr. No./Episode Titles

ORIGINAL SERIES

06 Man Trap
08 Charlie X
02 Where No Man Has Gone Before
07 Naked Time
05 Enemy Within
04 Mudd's Women
10 What Are Little Girls Made Of?
12 Miri
11 Dagger of the Mind
03 Corbomite Maneuver
16 Menagerie Pt 1
16 Menagerie Pt 2
13 Conscience of the King
09 Balance of Terror
17 Shore Leave
14 Galileo Seven
18 Squire of Gothos
19 Arena
21 Tomorrow is Yesterday
15 Courtmartial
22 Return of the Archons
24 Space Seed
23 A Taste of Armageddon
25 This Side of Paradise
26 Devil in the Dark
27 Errand of Mercy
20 Alternative Factor
28 City on the Edge of Forever

29 Operation Annihilate

34 Amok Time
33 Who Mourns for Adonais
37 Changeling
39 Mirror, Mirror
38 Apple
35 Doomsday machine
30 Catspaw
41 I, Mudd
31 Metamorphosis
44 Journey to Babel
32 Friday's Child
40 Deadly Years
47 Obsession
36 Wolf in the Fold
42 The Trouble with Tribbles
46 Gamesters of Triskelion
49 A Piece of the Action
48 Immunity Syndrome
45 A Private Little War
51 Return to Tomorrow
52 Patterns of Force
50 By Any Other Name
54 Omega Glory
53 Ultimate Computer
43 Bread and Circuses
55 Assignment Earth

61 Spock's Brain
59 Enterprise Incident
58 Paradise Syndrome

60 And the Children Shall Lead
 62 Is there in Truth no Beauty?
 56 Spectre of the Gun
 66 Day of the Dove
 65 For the World is Hollow ...
 64 Tholian Web
 67 Plato's Stepchildren
 68 Wink of an Eye
 63 The Empath
 57 Elaan of Troyius
 71 Whom Gods Destroy
 70 Let That Be Your Last Battlefield
 72 Mark of Gideon
 69 That Which Survives
 73 Lights of Zetar
 76 Requiem for Methuselah
 75 Way to Eden
 74 Cloud Minders
 77 Savage Curtain
 78 All Our Yesterdays
 79 Turnabout Intruder

THE NEXT GENERATION

721 Encounter at Farpoint
 103 The Naked Now
 104 Code of Honor
 107 The Last Outpost
 106 Where No One Has Gone Before
 108 Lonely Among Us
 109 Justice
 110 The battle
 111 Hide and Q
 105 Haven
 113 The Big Goodbye
 114 Datalore
 115 Angel One
 116 11001001
 112 Too Short a Season
 118 When the Bough Breaks
 117 Home Soil
 119 Coming of Age
 120 Heart of Glory
 121 Arsenal of Freedom
 123 Symbiosis
 122 Skin of Evil
 124 We'll Always Have Paris
 125 Conspiracy
 126 Neutral Zone

 127 The Child

128 Where Silence Has Lease
 129 Elementary, Dear Data
 130 The Outrageous Okona
 132 Loud as a Whisper
 131 The Schizoid Man
 133 Unnatural Selection
 134 A Matter of Honor
 135 The Measure of a Man
 136 The Dauphin
 137 Contagion
 138 The Royale
 139 Time Squared
 140 The Icarus Factor
 141 Pen Pals
 142 Q Who
 143 Samaritan Snare
 144 Up the Long Ladder
 145 Manhunt
 146 Emissary
 147 Peak Performance
 148 Shades of Grey

 150 Evolution
 149 The Ensigns of Command
 151 The Survivors
 152 Who Watches the Watchers?
 153 The Bonding
 154 Booby Trap
 155 The Enemy
 156 The Price
 157 The Vengeance Factor
 158 The Defector
 159 The Hunted
 160 The High Ground
 161 Deja Q
 162 A Matter of Perspective
 163 Yesterday's Enterprise
 164 The Offspring
 165 Sins of the Father
 166 Allegiance
 167 Captain's Holiday
 168 Tin Man
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PAVEL CHEKOV - WHERE NEXT?

by Neil Barrett

Fandom has been subjected to a series of rumours about STVII and whether the original cast would get back together (Star Trek VII : The Sinatra Syndrome). I agree with those who think it best to go out on a high note. The idea of a film or films chronicling the adventures of Capt Sulu and the Excelsior could be good but is rather risky. Only two faces are familiar and even if Shatner or someone else makes a cameo appearance there would have to be new storylines and a lot of new characters. If it failed it could destroy a lot of what has been so carefully built up over the years.

So where are our heroes headed at the end of ST VI? Sulu has a clear future with his own command (a state of the art vessel) and the adventure continues. Spock is already following in his father's footsteps - from Federation special envoy the obvious progression is into full time diplomacy. Kirk, McCoy and Scott are on the point of retirement from active service if not from Starfleet itself. Once this step is taken it would be difficult to reverse but given the improvements in medical science and longevity there is no reason for them not to move on to secondary careers. Uhura has plans to take up a teaching post at Starfleet Academy. Chapel has already moved on to a position at Starfleet HQ (ST IV). For Pavel Chekov, however, the future is less clear cut.

Chekov is the youngest member of the Enterprise clan. By the time of ST V he is in his early forties. There appears to be a longish gap between ST V and ST VI (at least 3years, probably 5 or 6 though the novel suggests almost ten) so he is now getting on for 50. Chekov was originally a command officer and it was expected that he would rise to his own captaincy. The early stages of his career support this by moving around the departments on the Enterprise (Navigation to Security) then transferring to the Reliant. Following the Genesis incident his career seems to have stalled. He took a temporary reduction to Lt Commander to serve aboard

1701-A; Sulu also did this for a period before taking over his own ship shortly after ST V. Given the Starfleet precedent of a captain selecting his/her own bridge crew we might have expected Chekov to join the Excelsior as first officer. There are three possible reasons for this not happening - 1) Sulu didn't want Chekov 2) Chekov wouldn't serve under Sulu 3) Chekov was needed on the Enterprise. I feel the last is most likely. For some time prior to ST VI Spock must have been absent from the ship in his role as Federation special envoy. Rather than bring in an unfamiliar face it is quite possible that Kirk asked Chekov to act as First Officer for the time being.

What options are open to Chekov if he stays in Starfleet? He could follow Uhura to the Academy but this may not be a good career move. Uhura is four years older than him and is not a command officer; she may well have reached the peak of her achievements and be prepared to wind down her career since she is not likely to make Captain. For Chekov, such a move would declare that he has no further ambitions to his own command. The same would apply to a Staff, Starbase or Headquarters posting. Starfleet's culture still follows the pattern of recruiting its most senior officers from operational positions. Given Chekov's career progression so far - Watch Officer, department head, Second Officer (Reliant), detached service, acting First Officer - there are two possible ways for him to continue.

While still Commander Chekov he could command a small vessel (say a Siva-class destroyer) as part of a fleet or attached to an outpost. From here he would progress to Captain and a larger vessel. This would be a change of direction since his previous experience has been in large vessels, but perhaps a challenge is what he needs at this point. Alternatively he could continue as First Officer of a cruiser or a dreadnought to gain experience before taking on a capital vessel of his own. This would provide a

different challenge in working with a completely new Captain and an established team. Perhaps he could join the Excelsior as First Officer if the position were to fall vacant through injury, retirement or promotion. This would provide a totally new aspect to the Sulu-Chekov double act; how would the long-term friendship affect the roles of Captain and Exec?

We also have the option of Chekov leaving Starfleet for a civilian career which would take him very much out of our view. We know from Day of the Dove that Pavel is an only son and his parents are probably elderly. He has been a career Starfleet officer for over twenty years and as far as we know there have been no major relationships so he would be completely alone in making a fresh start. This idea has already been tried in fan fiction (Alternate Universe #4 by Shirley Maewski, Anna Mary Hall & Virginia Tilley) with Kirk court-martialled, discharged from Starfleet and forced to rebuild his life. I don't doubt that this avenue could be explored but only the most dedicated fan would want to read it.

I have been working on the premise

☆☆☆☆

TO BOLDLY GO - WHERE?

by Karen Sparks

Picard's remark at the end of the 4th season episode "Clues" about not having enough time to check out the planet which had given anomalous readings inspired me to suddenly wonder - where is the Enterprise going, most of the time?

OK - sometimes orders come in directly from Starfleet - pick up these diplomats, render assistance to this planet, check up on that scientific colony, etc, - but most of the time how does Picard (or Kirk, for that matter) decide where they're going? Where are they on their way to when they have to sidetrack or delay to investigate sudden mysteries or rescue stranded colonists? I have come up with three possible alternatives so far:

that Chekov will rise to his own command. We should really ask the question - is Chekov right for command? The young Chekov is somewhat hot-headed but both Kirk and Spock feel he has potential and will mature into a good officer. On the Reliant he is much more confident and successful. Perhaps it was the opportunity to move out of the shadow of Sulu (always a high flier) that enabled him to shine. In ST V he holds the conn for long periods and plays the role of Captain quite well. In ST VI he appears less confident - deferring to Spock and allowing Valeris to treat him quite casually - so perhaps he is already concerned about his future. I would say a couple of years as First Officer away from Kirk will enable Chekov to complete the transition and ready himself for his own captaincy.

When Classic Trek was cancelled it was the fans' desire to hear more of their heroes that kept it alive and eventually brought it back. If ST VI is the last film featuring the original crew then I suspect the fans will continue their adventures anyway. I have always been a Chekov fan and I want to know what happens next, even if I have to write it myself. How about the rest of you?

1) A blanket policy of targets to be met is issued by Starfleet at convenient intervals, leaving discretion mostly up to the Captain, eg: "During the next year all galaxy class starships should endeavour to explore 107 strange new worlds and seek out at least 30.6 new civilisations."

2) Starship commanders are issued with a very detailed 24th century style filofax which they should consult each day, noting important dates and routes for the next month, eg: on the 3rd, visit the Joe Bloggs colony (turn left at the pink asteroid, then right at the meteor shower and straight on 'til morning), ferry those diplomats from A to B during the second week, monitor that exploding star on the 25th - oh yes, and

remember to send Lwaxana a birthday card and cancel the milk.

(To be marginally more sensible, they can't have a very detailed itinerary of people/ places to visit, otherwise waiting lists would end up making NHS queues look like peanuts - "Sorry, you should have called before 10 am - there won't be another starship in your quadrant for another 15.74 years!")

☆☆☆☆

CHILDREN ON STARSHIPS

a defence by Lynne Collinson

Gloria Fry's article concerning children on Starships has raised some very interesting points to which I feel compelled to reply.

The thrust of her argument seems to be, to me at any rate, that the children on board the Enterprise are in danger and therefore it is not moral for them to be there. This argument fails to take into account the over-riding fact that the Enterprise is a vessel first and foremost of peace; it is not a military craft in the way that we would understand it. It is a vessel of exploration and discovery. The children are never expected to beam down to unexplored planets and are therefore not in any extreme danger. In fact, they are in no more danger, I believe, than my children are today in England. We take risks anyway in bringing children into the world of the late 20th century. All the time I fear for my children from the daily dangers of crossing a road, travelling in a car or boat, passing a person with a large dog, the pollution in the air and the water, the unseen dangers of a depleted ozone layer or nuclear radiation.

In view of the dangers of modern life aren't we all irresponsible in expecting our children to put up with and suffer for our mistakes? Yet we still bear children and love them and nurture them and above all wish to be with them and guide them. Why should we expect the Enterprise crew members to spend years away from wives, husbands, partners and children and conversely to deprive children of their parents because of a vague chance of danger? The Enterprise of

3) Matters are left entirely up to each Captain - Starfleet waves bye-bye at the start of each mission, saying, "Don't forget to come in for a service and oil change every 10,000 light years, but otherwise we'll see you in 20 years - drive safely and have fun."

Has anyone got any better ideas???

the Next Generation is on a mission of seemingly unlimited duration. It is not a vessel of war out on battle manoeuvres. It is only natural that the personnel would wish to be with their families; it is more like a travelling city than a warship. It is a community in the broadest sense; a healthy, thriving community at that.

If we were to anticipate all the dangers that might befall our children we would never have them in the first place and the human race would come to an end.

I don't think the Enterprise children are in too much of a precarious position; after all, the ship can be split in times of danger so that the families need never be involved in a battle. Are we to assume that only those who are sterile, gay or impotent may be appointed to starships on long missions? That would be ridiculous.

As far as dramatic entertainment is concerned it makes good sense to feature family relationships. For example, some of the best episodes of the original series involved Spock's parents (Journey to Babel), Spock's 'marriage' (Amok Time), Kirk's brother and nephew (Operation Annihilate), Kirk's 'wife' Miramanee (Paradise Syndrome)...

TNG would be a sterile and limited show without its focus on family. It is much easier dramatically to have those families on board than to have to contrive plots in order

that leading characters might come into contact with their families. Family life is important to all us viewers/fans; how much easier it is to identify with the characters when we see them in the role of parent (Beverly, Keiko, Data, Deanna, Lwaxana, Worf), brother (Picard), husband (O'Brien), daughter/son (Riker, Deanna, Wesley, Alexander). The portrayal of on-board family relationships is the strength of TNG, not a weakness.

Maybe it is because of the presence of all these civilians that makes Picard the more diplomatic Captain - he is more likely to talk through a dilemma than to fire the photon torpedoes; there is more at stake.

As far as Wesley is concerned - isn't it the right of every child to fulfil their potential? (according to the United Nations declaration on children, anyway). Surely Wesley is being allowed this chance to fulfil his own unique potential without prejudice against his age. The premise of IDIC would preclude any resentment on the part of the adult crew members.

The children on board are a very clever dramatic device, I believe, for bringing out

aspects of the regular crew members' personality which otherwise could not be explored. I love the scenes of Picard trapped in the turbolift with three eager children and how much he learned about children in this instance. Likewise the following scenes stick in my mind - Lwaxana's mudbath with Alexander, the school scenes in Imaginary Friend, the birth of Keiko's baby, Worf's difficulties in forming a relationship with the young Alexander, the maturing of Wesley Crusher...

To conclude, our society would stagnate without youth, children who have a very important part to play in the future wherever it may be. I have recently read two books which focus on children in the future, which I recommend to anyone interested in this subject to read. Firstly, *Nemesis* by Isaac Asimov, which centres on a 15-year-old girl genius in space, and *Twilight of Briareus* which is concerned with the ending of the human race when everyone alive becomes sterile; this book by Richard Cowper is an excellent story.

As for the children - the future is in their hands!

☆☆☆☆

DON'T I KNOW THAT TUNE?

'Non-incidental' music in Trek and TNG

by Taruka Quauhtezcatl

Without any music, Trek would be rather flat (no pun intended). The contribution of background scores to the episodes cannot be under-stated; the themes of Gerald Fried, Fred Steiner, Alexander Courage, Ron Jones, Dennis McCarthy and Jerry Goldsmith to name but a few are all familiar to us. I do not propose to deal with these here.

However, in certain episodes there appears what I would term 'non-incidental' music, ie a piece of music which is written into the script. Four of these appear to have been written especially for the episodes, and a further one is on the borderline. They form an integral part of the story. I have not seen all episodes of TNG so, those of you who have, please bear with me if I miss one.

The first and probably most obvious example of a piece of music in the script is 'I'll Take You Home Again Kathleen', an American song written around the turn of the century. It is *not* Irish, nor is it from Northern England as has previously been stated by noted musicologists. However, after the way Kevin Riley sings it in *The Naked Time*, I think all

three countries would disown it!

Chronologically the next arrives in the next episode and is one of two songs sung by Nichelle Nichols, though there is a long wait for the other. In the Recreation Room, to the accompaniment of Spock's lyre, Uhura sings -

On the Starship Enterprise
 There's someone who's in Satan's guise
 Whose devil's ears and devil's eyes
 Could rip your heart from you.
 At first he could hypnotise
 And then his touch would cauterise
 His alien touch would improvise
 And rip your heart from you.
 And that's why female astronauts
 Those canny female astronauts
 Are terrified and overwrought
 To think what he might do.
 Once in space be wary, be wary,
 All those in space be wary
 We know not what he'll do.

On being asked to sing again, Uhura continues,

From a planet out in space
 Comes a man not commonplace
 Seeking out his first embrace
 He's saving it for you.
 Oh Charlie love, you darling, oh darling, oh darling,
 Oh Charlie love, you darling, oh darling, oh darling,
 We know not what he'll do...

before being abruptly silenced by Charlie Evans.

The tune of this song is unfamiliar though there are phrases borrowed from many folk songs including Charlie is my Darling and Liverpool Lullaby.

There is a long gap here to Plato's Stepchildren in which one of my personal favourite songs appears - again an unfamiliar tune but bearing resemblances to many folk songs. The minor key gives it a notable similarity to Scarborough Fair and Old Pendle. Sung - under pressure - by Spock, and proving how good Leonard Nimoy's singing voice is, the words are -

Take care young ladies and value your wine
 Be watchful of young men in their velvet prime
 For deeply they'll swallow from your finest kegs
 And swiftly be gone, leaving bitter dregs.
 Ah - bitter dregs.
 With smiling words and tender touch
 A man offers little and asks for so much.
 He loves in the breathless excitement of night
 And leaves with your treasure in cold morning light.
 Ah - cold morning light.

This beautiful song set against the sadistic background story serves to mark the contrast

between the Enterprise crew and the Platonians and strikes a discord - which of course it was intended to do. In the original draft of the script Uhura sang, but the choice of Spock - not known for his romantic inclinations - again heightens the malevolence.

A complete contrast is provided in The Way to Eden, possibly the most dated of all the episodes. Come on, hippies in the 23rd century? However, the song sung by Adam and his friends has some merit - I think. Lines from it are scattered throughout the script (or perhaps the writers ran out of ideas!)

This example, sung by Adam in the corridor, is plain silly -

Stiff man puttin' my mind in jail
The judge bangs his gavel an' he says 'No bail!'
Gotta lick his hand and wag my tail...

However, the 'distraction' in the rec room has slightly more artistic merit;

- (Sung) I'm talkin' 'bout you, I'm talkin' 'bout me...
Some time when the galaxy was new
Man found out what he had to do
He found he had to eat and he found he had to drink
And a long time later he found he had to think.
Ah-ha, to think.
- (Spoken) I'm standin' here wonderin'
What?
- (Sung) If a man tells another man 'Out of my way'
He piles up trouble for himself all day
But all kinds of trouble all come to an end
When a man tells another 'Be my friend'
Ah-ha, be my friend.
- (Spoken) Well, that's what it's going to be.
- (Sung) There's a wild white emptiness between you and me.
Can't reach across it, hardly even see
Got to get over one way or another (*this line is unclear*)
Let's say goodbye, let's say brother
Brother
Hey out there
Hey out there
I see you, I see you
Let's get together and have some fun
I don't know how to do it but it's gotta be done.

Unfortunately the 'jam session' with Spock ruins the effect.

Musically speaking, this song is a mishmash of styles based firmly in the late 60s...

The Star Trek films are characterised by a lack of non-incident music - with one exception. The Final Frontier has two examples. The more unusual is the return of Nichelle Nichols' singing voice during the 'fan dance' sequence - unfortunately I do not have the words of this song to hand. The other and probably better-remembered, is Kirk and McCoy's trying to teach Spock to sing Row, Row, Row Your Boat. (Incidentally, at the end of the film when Spock is playing his lyre, I am certain that the actual sound is an instrument called a ronroco, a type of mandolin, rather than the harp sound used in the series.)

In TNG too there is somewhat of a lack of non-incidental music, but when it does turn up it is often in a humorous context. For example, who chose to put Let's Call The Whole Thing Off in the episode Datalore? (That's the song Lore sings to Data.)

Two episodes later we are treated to Jonathan Frakes playing All The Things You Are to Minuet, reasonably well. Even the antics of the Bynars couldn't spoil that.

There appears to be a lack of spontaneous music in season two, but this is well made up for in season three, beginning with the Mozart Serenade in G Eine Kleine Nachtmusik in The Ensigns of Command. I would be interested to know if that really was Brent Spiner playing first violin. I think the piece appears again but I can't remember where.

In Allegiance we are treated - or should that be subjected - to Patrick Stewart singing Heart of Oak, which is not easy to sing at the best of times! I would have thought What Shall We Do With The Drunken Sailor? to be more appropriate.

Mozart returns in the episode called Sarek but this time I am unable to identify the piece - despite having played enough Mozart myself to last a lifetime. Anyone out there know what it is?

I will include the bamboo chime from Menage a Troi in this category as although it begins as incidental, the rhythm becomes part of the plot - not the only time this happens! The instrument it is played on during the banquet is a larger version of an Indonesian instrument whose name I, as always, have forgotten though I have one!

Season four brings the return of Data's attempt at whistling (first heard in Encounter at Farpoint) and this is worse! Will he ever get the last line of Pop Goes the Weasel? Also in this episode (Brothers) is another example of Lore's singing. The missing line of Abdul the Bulbul Emir (after Lore vanishes) should be '... was Ivan Skobinski Skobar'.

In The Wounded, I cannot quite make out why O'Brien (ostensibly Irish) would know the Welsh song The Minstrel Boy. What makes this more poignant is the unsung second verse which has the line 'no chain shall sully thee, soul of truth and bravery/ Thy songs were made for the pure in heart, they will never sound in slavery' - an echo, surely, of the thoughts and intentions of Captain Maxwell! (Or have I read too much into that?)

Future Imperfect brings the treat of Jonathan Frakes mangling Misty, not once but twice. To do that is quite difficult if you're a reasonable player!

So far in season five there are two examples - in Disaster we are treated briefly to Geordi singing I Am the Very Model of a Modern Major-General from The Pirates of Penzance (I think - please correct me!) and also, perhaps inevitably, Picard singing Frere Jaques, which is *corny* in the extreme.

The most recent example I have found is that in Unification II, in the bar while waiting for 'the fat Ferengi' and is quite a long one.

From the beginning, the four-armed pianist being introduced to cool jazz by Riker, and her mentioning Melor Fanegal, through the changes of scene to be picked up again by Worf's requesting the Klingon opera Ak'to emelota (I hope that's the spelling!) and then singing - to be (fortunately) interrupted by the Ferengi requesting Melor Fanegal, the second example of a piece of incidental music becoming central or important to the plot.

Have I missed any? Quite probably. I don't count the 'music' played by one of the

children in When The Bough Breaks as this is a) not identifiable and b) not strictly music. Even the example from Unification is on the borderline, included because of Riker's piano playing and Worf's singing.

Further examples welcome.

In my musical wanderings through the world of Star Trek I have noticed that whereas the original series had pieces written for it - or at least cobbled together for it - TNG has relied on existing material to a much greater extent. In certain cases this may be for copyright reasons - the 50-year copyright on the songs will have run out - but I am left wondering what music will be like in the 23rd and 24th centuries. It can't be much worse than it is now!

☆☆☆☆

THE REST OF THE OPINION POLL RESULTS; i.e. PART 2

Sorted, counted, dropped, picked up again, etc by Helen White

Since we finished part 1 with section B, you can probably guess where we've got to now; yes, it's section C, the animated episodes:

1. Do you like the animateds?

Yes	25.7
No	8.1
Some	25.0
Don't know/no answer	41.2

Not surprisingly, as few people so far have managed to see any of the animateds, the 'don't knows' outnumbered the other answers.

2. Favourite episode

1. Yesteryear	55.1
2. More Tribbles, More Troubles	12.7
3. The Pirates of Orion	5.1
4. Slaver Weapon	3.4
Time Trap	3.4
6. One of Our Planets is Missing	2.5

Comments:

(Re the animateds in general) "IT'S BEEN SO LONG!"

(Ditto) "Haven't seen any but don't fancy them."

(The Counter-Clock Incident) ".....And I puzzled for days over the problem of giving birth to a fully-formed 'adult' human...."

3. Least favourite episode

1. The Infinite Vulcan	23.0
2. BEM	9.9
3. The Lorelei Signal	8.5
Mudd's Passion	8.5

More Tribbles, More Troubles 8.5

6. The Magicks of Megas-Tu 5.6

Comments:

(BEM) "....The one where an alien falls apart to escape."

(The Counter-Clock Incident) "The Pits."

(The Infinite Vulcan) "The asparagus people episode...."

Something tells me that the voting in these two sections was influenced by the fact that only a couple of videos of the animateds were out at the time, and on Tape One are.... (surprise!) both Yesteryear and The Infinite Vulcan. And gosh, they're both Vulcany ones again.

Goodness me, here we are at section D already, and TNG.

I asked who'd seen which season(s) of TNG, as I thought that it would be interesting to find how many IDIC members had managed to catch any of seasons four and/or five.

265 people answered the question:

Season 1	98.1
Season 2	94.7
Season 3	93.2
Season 4	55.5
Season 5	37.4

1. Do you like TNG?

Yes	76.5
No	7.4
Some	14.7
Don't know/no answer	1.5

My only comment here is to say that many of the 'no' people were most definite in their dislike of TNG!

2. Favourite regular character(s)

1. Data	28.3		
2. Picard	22.8		
3. Worf	11.6		
4. Riker	9.4	11. Yar	2.1
5. Geordi	7.0	12. O'Brien	0.9
6. Troi	6.7	13. All of them	0.7
7. Bev	3.3	14. Barclay	0.1
8. Wes	2.5	None of them	0.1
9. Guinan	2.2		
Pulaski	2.2		

The vote was more spread here than with the original regulars; there are more of them in TNG, after all!

A lot of people voted for the all the top three, or Picard and Data, or Data and Worf, or Picard, Data and one other.

Comment

(Re the characters in general) "I find them all totally boring."

3. Favourite regular actor(s)

1. Stewart	33.3		
2. Spiner	25.4		
3. Dorn	8.9		
4. Frakes	7.3	10. Muldaur	1.8
5. Sirtis	6.7	11. All of them	1.2
6. Goldberg	4.0	12. Crosby	0.8
7. Burton	3.8	13. Meaney	0.4
8. McFadden	3.2	None of them	0.4
9. Wheaton	2.8		

Now, this was an interesting one. At the start of the count, Brent Spiner raced ahead, then, by about half way through, Patrick Stewart and he were on level-pegging. You can see how things ended up!

Again, as with the originals, people had often chosen one character and then a different actor from the one playing that character.

Comments:

"No question! Patrick Stewart!"

"PATRICK STEWART AND PATRICK STEWART."

(Incidentally, each character only got one vote per reply, no matter how many times the name was mentioned!)

4. Favourite guest character

1. Q	49.5		
2. Lwaxana Troi	14.1		
3. Guinan	10.5		
4. Barclay	4.0	8. McCoy	1.4
5. K'Ehleyr	3.6	The Traveller	1.4
6. Spock	2.5	10. Lal	1.1
7. The Borg	2.2	Pulaski	

1.1

I wasn't sure here whether to allow votes for the Borg; they don't have characters! Besides, we all know what they'd say:

"Opinions are irrelevant."....

Comments:

"I miss the Vulcans in TNG."

"Q - I'm biased." (Hello Janet!)

5. Favourite guest actor

1. John de Lancie	50.2		
2. Majel Barrett	13.0		
3. Whoopi Goldberg	12.6		
4. Suzie Plakson	3.6	8. Denise Crosby	1.2
5. Leonard Nimoy	3.2	Matt Frewer	1.2
6. Mark Lenard	2.4	De Forest Kelley	1.2
Dwight Schultz	2.4		

One person voted for Brent Spiner in this category; for his appearances as both Lore and Doctor Soong (in Brothers).

6. Favourite episode

1. Yesterday's Enterprise	14.0
2. Measure of a Man	8.2
3. The Best of Both Worlds	7.1
4. Deja Q	6.6
5. The Offspring	5.5
6. Q Who	2.7
Unification	2.7
8. Conspiracy	2.2
9. The Big Goodbye	1.9
Family	1.9
Qpid	1.9

Another sign of Q's popularity here, with three of his five episodes (so far) in the top ten. There were 87 different episodes voted for in this category.

7. Least favourite episode

1. Shades of Gray	17.7
2. The Royale	5.6
Justice	5.6
4. Code of Honor	5.3
Up the Long Ladder	5.3
6. Angel One	4.1
7. Encounter at Farpoint	3.8
8. Conspiracy	3.4
9. A Matter of Perspective	2.6
Skin of Evil	2.6
When the Bough Breaks	2.6

In this category, there were only 53 different episodes voted for.

Comments:

(Shades of Gray) "Riker's Brain."

(Code of Honor) "....What a terrible choice for a second episode!"

(A Matter of Perspective) "....Riker was accused of murder.... I can't remember the title or the

plot and I fell asleep before the end!"

(Conspiracy) "Exploding heads and brain control worms."

(Re category title) "Don't talk rubbish!"

And Finally....

This was the section in which I requested a score (maximum ten points) for each of original, films, animated and TNG. Each had a total possible score based on how many people actually gave a score - for example, only 153 people gave the animateds a score; the rest left the space blank - and I worked the percentages out with that.

Original series	88.8
Films	81.0
Animateds	57.1
TNG	83.1

Five people gave ten to each series, and five people gave no score to any of said series. If any scores were over 10 or below 0 (see below!) they were treated as 10 or 0.

Comments:

(TNG - score 1) "I like the music!"

(TNG) "100!"

(Films) "-10 89" (ie -10 to the power of 89; my WP can't write powers!) Well, I know that I said 'maximum 10 points', but I didn't think that I needed to put a minimum!

I very much enjoyed working out all the figures, even if I didn't really get any surprises; we're a conservative lot, on the whole, aren't we? Thanks again to all the people that filled in the forms; I couldn't have done it without you. Well, I could, but it would have been a very short article with only my own votes!

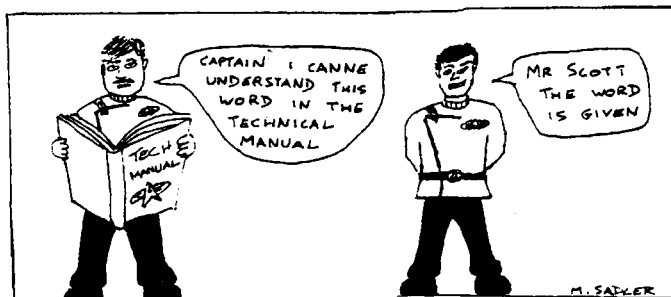
As a demonstration of my gratitude, I would like to share with you my current favourite joke:

Q: What's the difference between a duck?

A: One of its legs is both the same.

Thank you and goodnight.

☆☆☆☆

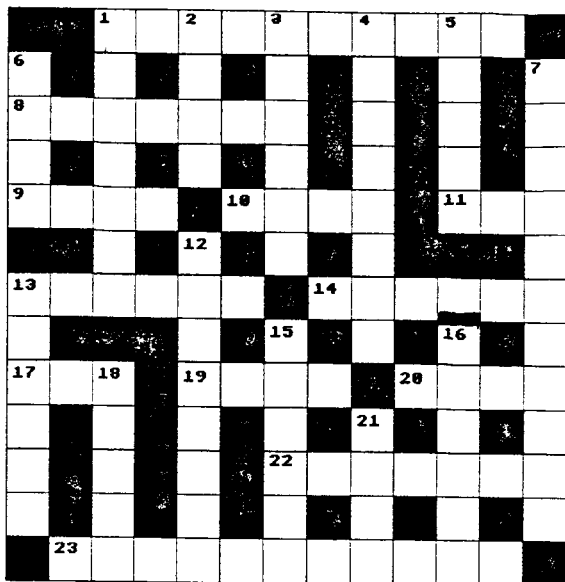


CROSSWORD (original and TNG)

by Taruka Quauhtezcatl

ACROSS

1. Name of Picard's and Kirk's starships (10)
8. Particles of light; used in torpedoes (7)
9. Day of the —; Kirk's first attempted peace with the Klingons (4)
10. Though Q tries, he never makes one of Picard! (4)
11. What Sybok was looking for (3)
13. In The Paradise Syndrome, the people's way of life resembled this culture (6)
14. Chekov's and Wesley's rank (6)
17. It was on top of the viewing screen in Pike's cabin (3)
19. If nothing else, the Antedians were this (4)
20. Used by the Pakled to get Geordi (4)
22. Surname of actor who plays Kirk (7)
23. They pursued Q all over the Enterprise (10)

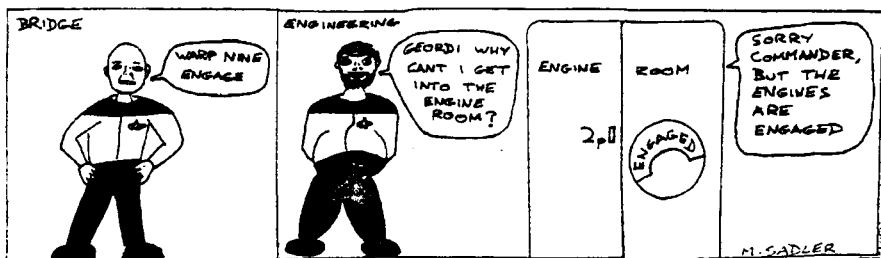


6. Episode in which Worf says, "I am not a merry man!" (4)
7. The Great Bird of the Galaxy (11)
12. Cause of hull damage to both the Enterprise and the Pagh (8)
13. Spock's sehlat (1-5)
15. Forename of actor who played Samuel T. Cogley (6)
16. Usually found behind the bar in Ten Forward (6)
18. Data's first female 'conquest' (5)
21. He tries too hard to be human (4)

DOWN

1. The Nanites did this quite rapidly (7)
2. Surname of Lwaxana and Deanna (4)
3. Female Survivor on Delta Rana IV (6)
4. Warlike aliens famous for ale, warbirds and cloaking devices (8)
5. Surname of Data's creator (5)

☆☆☆☆☆



THE MOST TOYS

by Liz Caldwell

I'd like say a few words about The Most Toys now that most fans have had a chance to see it. I think this is probably the most significant episode for Data in the entire series, but I feel the challenges and changes to his character that it invoked have not been taken up by subsequent writers, which is a pity. If the Enterprise hadn't rescued him in the nick of time, Data would have deliberately killed someone in this episode, and not in self defence either as Fajo would never have harmed the prize of his collection. It would have been a pretty horrible death for Fajo, too, judging by what the Varon T disrupter did to poor Varria. Data also lied in this episode, or at least concealed the truth when Riker questioned him about the disrupter being in a state of discharge.

These are major landmarks in the development of Data's character, never to be seen or picked up on again... not that I want to see Data going round shooting people and lying all the time! That'd make him more like Lore, but I think these incidents bring him a step closer to his goal of being Human, and yet in the next episode he's back to being the unfeeling, emotionless android.

Why did he lie to Riker? Did he suddenly feel guilt or remorse because he had deliberately tried to kill Fajo and would have actually done so had not the Enterprise transporter snatched him away? It would have been the first time Data killed anyone. Fajo had asked him had he killed yet, and he said no. It's ironic that a short time after asking Data that question Fajo himself almost becomes Data's first victim. Perhaps Data didn't want anyone to know how close he came to killing - how would his crewmates have reacted? Would they have understood? After all, they weren't in Data's shoes - they wouldn't have seen what Fajo did to Varria and had threatened to do to his other servants. I'm sure that at the end of the episode when Data tells Fajo he does not feel pleasure, he is only an android, everyone watching it is thinking, "No, he's not!"

I'd also like to put in a good word for Saul Rubinek who played the part of Fajo so excellently at such short notice. I believe his performance has been criticised for being over the top, but it *needs* to be over the top, the character demands it. I think he strikes the right balance between being an eccentric collector, almost amusing in some ways, and a ruthless, dangerous madman. The way Varria says his punishments for disobedience can be 'lavish' makes you wonder what exactly he did to her face. When he kills her, I'm sure it's because he's curious to see what effect the Varon T disrupter will have, as he mentioned earlier he's always wanted to try it out. He does look momentarily horrified at what he's done, but soon recovers and is threatening to use it on someone else.

The scene near the end of the episode, where Fajo is goading Data on - "If only you could feel rage over Varria's death... feel the need for revenge... then maybe you could fire" is outstanding. Is Fajo SO confident Data won't harm him? It's almost as if he's trying to spark Data's emotions into life so that Data *will* fire on him. When Data tells Fajo "I cannot permit this to continue" is it only because he has reached a logical conclusion, that the death of one, Fajo, is better than the death of many, Fajo's poor crew? I can't remember the episode name right now, but in Classic Trek McCoy says something like "If the death of one man saves a thousand, is that your simple logic, Mr. Spock?" Who is right? Is this a logical conclusion for Data or is there the spark of rage and the need for revenge in there somewhere?

In the final scene between Data and Fajo, Data listens in silence while Fajo asks if he's come to see him beg for mercy, saying that their roles are reversed and now he is the one who's in a cage. Data give a short, three-word reply; "So it seems." I may be hearing it wrong, but to my ears there's more emotion in the tone of his voice for those three words than I've ever heard from Data before and

have yet to hear again. I suppose it may just be wishful thinking on my part, but this episode always leaves me feeling moved and

marvelling at its profound implications for Data's character. For me it is one of the most thought-provoking of the series.

☆☆☆☆

IMPRESSIONS OF 'THE CAGE'

by Lesley Hatch

Wednesday 19th August 1992

This was the first time I had seen the first pilot episode of Star Trek, although two people I know say they have seen it before. However, I do know from The Making of Star Trek the background to the making of it, and the story I remember from the James Blish adaptation. So, having said that, the dialogue was familiar to me from having read it.

Starting with the opening credits, I wasn't prepared for the way in which they were both similar to and different from the opening sequence which later graced the Original Trek series proper. The Enterprise looked far too small when set against the stars, and I'm not sure whether at one point it was 'flying' upside down - I wasn't watching that closely.

The next thing which surprised me was that one of the female crewmembers seen in passing in the corridor was actually wearing a skirt, knee-length, made of strips of material attached to a belt - well, that's the best way I can describe it. Certainly, it might be considered practical and a little more dignified than the miniskirts when the series proper was up and running.

Going on to the actual scenery and props, I confess I had been expecting to see the same equipment as we saw in the series proper, so the clipboards and large communicators were a bit unexpected, likewise the light fittings over the various stations. These reminded me very forcibly of the 'eyes' of the Martian flying machines in the film The War of the Worlds.

The story itself I really can't fault; for its time, it was well written for the most part, though I can't help wondering at the attitude of the Captain when he refused a place on the landing party to his Number One on the grounds that there might be a dangerous situation, the implication being that Talos IV was no place for a woman. His reason that she is the superior officer and needed on the bridge doesn't hold any water with her or us. That, though, was a sign of the times and certainly not any idea of Gene Roddenberry's. It was also well-acted, with the honours going to Jeffrey Hunter, Susan Oliver and Leonard Nimoy.

The characters, too, were well-defined from the word go. To digress for a moment, I watched the first episode of Eldorado and came away totally confused as to who was who in that. The same cannot be said of The Cage - you knew from the start who was who, at least among the main characters, and there was no confusion.

There was also some interesting interaction between the various characters - Boyce and Pike, Spock and Number One, and Vina and Pike being the main examples. In Boyce I could see some of the characteristics of McCoy, and it was fascinating, to coin a phrase, to see some of the later character traits of Spock included in the personality of Number One.

All in all, I quite enjoyed watching it - I don't have that many criticisms, and I shall look forward to seeing the three banned episodes, assuming the BBC do actually keep their promise to show them!

☆☆☆☆

BOOK/VIDEO/AUDIO/GAME REVIEWS

SANCTUARY by John Vornholt Pocket Titan 56 £3.99. Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Sanctuary is a fabled world in unexplored space which is thought to be the last refuge of the 'persecuted' - both those unjustly accused of crimes and known criminals. Starfleet has never been able to learn its exact location.

In pursuit of a criminal, the Enterprise reaches unexplored space. The ship they are chasing heads for the surface of a planet; Kirk, Spock and McCoy follow in a shuttlecraft.

On the surface they discover that this is indeed Sanctuary; and that anyone arriving there can never leave. Everyone there is given pretty well anything he wants or needs - food, drink, clothes, shelter... Meanwhile, back on the Enterprise, Scott (in command) is desperately trying to contact the missing officers...

My initial thought was how did the criminal elements (to say nothing of those falsely accused of wrongdoing) know where Sanctuary was when the Federation had been unable to learn where it was - especially when some of the populace of Sanctuary were Federation nationals. The Klingons knew where it was; a Klingon ship (among others!) had been in orbit for years trying to stop criminals reaching the surface - surely a Federation spy in Klingon territory could have found out without too much effort?

The actual story is mostly about Kirk, Spock and McCoy trying to find a way off the planet, interspersed to some degree with Scott trying to find a way to rescue the missing men. There are a couple of nice (short) scenes between Scott and the Captains of the Klingon and Orion ships also in orbit.

I enjoyed the book well enough, but although there's no sense of its being padded, I felt the first two thirds of the story was pretty lightweight despite the continual emphasis on "there's no way off the planet". Most of the action and excitement comes in

the last third, after Kirk and his men discover what actually happens to the people - mostly men - who have been 'saved' from persecution by reaching Sanctuary. Generally speaking, however, the credibility factor is pretty low because the basic premise is so unlikely. I'd hesitate to give this one more than 5 out of 10.

STAR TREK: THE NEW VOYAGES ed by Sondra Marshak and Myra Culbreath. Titan Books £3.99 Reviewed by Taruka Queuhtzcatl

This book arrived unexpectedly - an early birthday present - and what a pleasure and surprise it was!

The names of Marshak and Culbreath were familiar to me, and when I read this collection of 8 short stories I felt at home immediately.

Of them, three stand out; Ni Var by Claire Gabriel, Visit to a Weird Planet Revisited by Ruth Berman and The Face on the Bar-Room Floor by Eleanor Arnason and Ruth Berman. These, I hasten to add, are only peaks in what is an excellent anthology of early fan fiction. At last someone's got the courage to publish it properly.

Ni Var by Claire Gabriel charts the problems caused when the two halves of Spock are deliberately separated by a slightly deranged scientist. There are echoes of similar stories; I found myself recalling James Blish's Spock Must Die beside the rather obvious The Enemy Within (to which reference is made) and Datalore, but the resolution of the problem is brilliantly handled. And, much to my surprise, it has a stardate. Also the story is beautifully set up by a modest introduction by Leonard Nimoy.

Visit to a Weird Planet Revisited by Ruth Berman is a delight. Introduced with a humorous page and a half by Majel Barrett-Roddenberry it asks the question, "What would William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy and DeForest Kelley do if they found themselves

aboard the real Enterprise?" The little side references to production crew (such as Vincent McEveety nearly blowing his top) are wonderful.

The Face on the Bar-Room Floor by Eleanor Arnason and Ruth Berman and introduced by George Takei has Kirk caught in a bar-room brawl while on shore leave, thrown into jail and his hilarious attempt to a) get out and b) prove he is who he says he is.

The other stories, which I will leave to other readers to discover, are; Intersection Point by Juanita Coulson, The Enchanted Pool by Marcia Erikson, The Hunting by Doris Beetam, The Winger Dreamers by Jennifer Guttridge (certain echoes of This Side of Paradise), Mind-Sifter by Shirley Maiewski and Sonnet from the Vulcan: Omicron Ceti Three by Shirley Meech.

Altogether a very pleasant surprise. The introductions to the stories alone make the books worth obtaining. For those who haven't seen these stories before (myself included) or even if you have, it makes a useful addition to the bookcase.

CHARTING THE UNDISCOVERED COUNTRY: THE MAKING OF TREK VI by M A Altman, R Magid and E Gross. Cinemaker Press 1992. 130 pages (A4 size book) Reviewed by Edward Woo

The book has a glossy front and back cover but I felt the artwork did not capture the images of the ST characters compared to some Trek novel front covers. I have found that many extracts of the book have appeared in other science fiction magazines like Starlog, Starburst, etc, so some I have read before.

There are plenty of facts, figures and stories about how ST VI came to our cinemas. Budget problems that had plagued ST V and Bill Shatner's finale again surfaced. Paramount wanted a reduced budget so that the ST VI script could be filmed, so many of the cast took pay cuts or deferred their pay packets until later. One major loss was the film's opening, where the crew are coaxed out of semi-retirement for one more mission. This saved \$1 million.

ILM said with a reduced effects budget they found many ways to do some of the effects shots better. It was also suggested that effects don't make good ST films but the stories do - which seems true.

Even though the Alaskan scenes were expensive, they felt it was well worth it, despite sweating in the freezing conditions. The trial and penal colony scenes were difficult but rewarding to both cast and crew.

Everyone knows Nick Meyer wanted a submarine feel to the Enterprise and described Excelsior's hit by a shock wave like the Poseidon hit by a tidal wave. There was talk of bringing Kirsty Alley or Robin Curtis back if the Saavik character was used, but it was Kim Catterall who eventually arrived as Valeris.

Did anyone notice Spock's ears? Leonard wanted the original series look and not the theatrical film look - he got it as well. One of Dr McCoy's medical instruments was one of the original series props. One B & W photo I liked in the book was one where a box load of phasers are dumped into a bin - don't throw them away, I'll have one!

Everyone knows that the final ship's log by Captain Kirk and Michael Dorn's appearance was the connection to pass the reins on to TNG. But did you know there was some concern regarding ST VI's success, as many felt the success of TNG might hurt the original cast - no way that could ever occur! Most of the cast were open-minded on another ST film whilst the production crew had the impression that it would be the final one.

The book has plenty of snippets of information like the above to read and discover. A number of B & W photos of the cast are included. I enjoy this type of book - I collect them.

A final appendix describes a story for the ST II TV series with the original cast, Xon, Ilia and Decker but no Spock.

This is a collectors' book for those who enjoy reading into the background of ST film

production.

STAR WRECK - THE GENERATION GAP
by Leah Rewolinski St Martin's Paperbacks
1989 Reviewed by Edward Woo

For a bit of fun involving Star Trek, this is an excellent parody of the characters of Classic Trek and TNG. It's something like the "Mad" magazines. There are some lovely illustrations inside the book and I wish there were more of them.

The names of the characters are subtly changed, for example Mr Dacron, Beverage Flusher, Mr Snot and Dr 'Moans' McCaw, to name just a few. Other terms include UltraFac platform, a Jargon Manual and Star Wreck command.

Guess who saves the Enterprise and its crew - no hints?

Two further funny examples of the book include the transporter functions by weight and Worf being the heaviest arrives last. The other was Scotty's Technical Jargon for why the engines didn't work. Whereas Geordi La Forge just said "No excuses but fix the engines."

Good fun bedtime reading for anyone, and this time the Klingons aren't the bad guys!

STAR TREK - THE LOST EPISODES 58
pages, A4 stapled \$5.95 plus postage from
Star Tech Reviewed by Stephen Shaw

This brief little book contains the story lines of five episodes of Classic Trek, said to have been bought by Gene Roddenberry but 'for one reason or another' not used. Unfortunately, although copyright is said to remain with the authors, they remain anonymous.

The 58 pages include 10 full page black and white studio portraits of our friends, and each story is prefaced with a black and white sketch of the Enterprise with a blank page on the back of it.

The large page format and small type

yield a story coverage only slightly smaller than we saw in James Blish's stories of the Classic episodes.

THE AURORALS - Diplomatic mission to meet with a planet wishing to join the Federation, which results in our trio being replaced with lookalike androids - carrying bombs to destroy the Enterprise in just 6 hours. Our heroes are supplied with a girl each, who is (unwillingly) set to marry them, to enliven the old genes.

After some action Kirk manages a message of warning to the Starship, and the androids are transported into space at the very last moment. Spock, with a little native help, makes an android copy of the great dictator, and in due course everything is all right.

THE GODHEAD - Investigating a growing sphere of destructive supernovae our heroes discover an unusual being whose intention is absorption of the universe(!). The being is VERY old, and one body contains an entire race melded in one mind. At the conclusion of the present experiments this last physical entity is to cease its physical form. The super-entity has retained one other life form, a female (for company?) and this is the chance Kirk needs... soon the power of the Enterprise has reanimated the discarded - but not destroyed - bodies of the race, removing the power of the superbeing.

THE JOY MACHINE - Investigating a planet which has been 'closed' for two years and on which is (trapped?) Kirk's fiancée Danielle. Problem: pay day on the planet is direct pleasure stimulation, very habit-forming. The four (trio + Uhura) are coerced into resigning but Kirk sends a coded 'disregard' message. We are led to believe Kirk tortures the Chief of Police in an attempt to obtain information (????!!!!). The Paymaster tells Kirk all anyway - how to stop the treatment without having a quarter million adults tear each other into pieces? Get Starfleet to destroy the planet! Uhura borrows a guitar and has her music transmitted, to be picked up by the Enterprise and decoded. Spock and McCoy work out how to use the machine to make it ONLY

work with those already addicted but have no effect on children, etc, thus allowing the population to 'outgrow' the addiction. Danielle has to stay on the planet for her doses.

THE LOST STAR - Instruments reveal a solar (?) system where the charts and screen show empty space. Breaking through a barrier a new system is discovered, but the engines are burned out and there is only power for 14 hours. Beaming down to a planet we find an agricultural community living in fear of The Old Ones. Below the planet is an empty but functioning city. A metal required to repair the ship is TAKEN (Prime Directive? What's that?) and taken back! The planet operated by means of a projected power, a psi power which the Rulers use to maintain peace. Or stagnation, thousands of years of it. Spock taps into the power to create the needed repairs. After a little logical discussion by Kirk the Enterprise is released but the system is to remain cloaked... for how long?

PERCHANCE TO DREAM - Enterprise calls at a planet to pick up a rare drug. On the way to the Federation office from their beamdown point our three heroes are mobbed by screaming women (another convention?). They make it inside with Kirk minus most of his uniform. The planet has a visiting entertainment troupe who utilise a drug to enhance audience participation - not entirely without longer term effects. Kirk happens to look like one of the entertainment's heroes...

The entertainment troupe are shipped off-planet on Enterprise, and the crew are entertained. The machines and drugs are confiscated - but one machine and some drugs remain. Kirk is forcibly drugged and plugged in - and Spock and a security team burn through the door to the rescue just in time.

KLINGON COVERT OPERATIONS MANUAL by D Christison & others 1989 £11.00 from Sheffield Space Centre Reviewed by Edward Woo

This manual has a nice front and back cover but the contents, I felt, should have been better. It comprises sections devoted to

the following subjects: famous Klingons, Klingon organisation, Klingon warships, handweapons, Klingon security and Command regulations. Other parts of the manual look at Starfleet's ships, handweapons and Starfleet training. A small section is devoted to alien races.

I didn't think the diagrams and drawings are well enough done as some, in my opinion, look a bit fuzzy. I enjoyed the Klingon stargrams, the handweapons and the organisation, but the others not so much. I would like to see a better version. It might mean it would be a bit more expensive but I would be willing to pay for better quality. It has its uses as a reference guide for any questions about the Klingon Empire.

NEW VOYAGES - TNG GUIDEBOOK - The First 100 episodes by E Gross and M A Altman, Image Publishing 1991 Available from At The Sign of the Dragon, £11.00 Reviewed by Edward Woo

This is an A4 sized book covering TNG. Each episode is documented as follows: i) the basic storyline, ii) production information and views of the production staff for that episode and iii) Gross and Altman giving their views of the story with a star rating system separately and whether the stories are A or B type ones.

It's a well put together book and gives an insight into interesting facts about TNG. For example, Elizabeth Dennehy (Commander Shelby) had just missed out on a pilot show and was in a real bad mood when she auditioned for the role of Shelby and that got her the role despite the lousy money. Everyone on the set had unzipped uniforms between takes because they got very hot and the production stage with its lights threw out a lot of heat. There were two bottle shows; Shades of Grey was described as a piece of s*** by Maurice Hurley, whilst Drumhead was completely different and absorbing, and the cheapest episode that season. The flying sequences were meant to have been much better in Night Terrors when conceived, but it didn't happen.

Gross and Altman did a lot of

comparing of the first season with Classic Trek but in later seasons TNG stood on its own. They liked the characters of Q and Data but felt bringing back 'Yar' as a Romulan dented the believability aspect of ST in Gene's universe. One comment I liked is from Most Toys, with Data discharging; his hand weapon whilst transporting it would have blown O'Brien's head clean off as he appeared on the transporter pad.

It is a nice book containing comments about each episode with on and off production views from everyone involved.

STARFLEET PROTOTYPE: The Journal of Innovative Design and Ideas 2291-92 D Schmidt and others. Starfleet Academy Training Command Press. £11.00 from At The Sign of the Dragon Reviewed by Edward Woo

To those who have the large format book, Ships of the Starfleet, this book has been produced along similar lines, with high quality paper and drawings of new concept type ships for Starfleet.

It comprises over a dozen different classes of ship with 4 - 6 pages devoted to each class, including the Enterprise-A and Constellation class Starships. The tactical section has information about Starbases, phasers and Transwarp.

One appendix I liked was the idea of a dedicated shake-down crew to test new Starships, called the Cathedral Unit.

To those who are interested it is a good companion book to Ships of the Starfleet. However, to the less discerning ST collector, Ships of the Starfleet would be the first choice and to those who could afford it, this one as well.

Just a small note; I hear they are intending to revise/update Ships of the Starfleet soon, but it has not appeared yet.

HISTORY OF THE VESSEL ENTERPRISE - 16TH - 24TH CENTURY by R M Roden, Jrn. Intergalactic Press 1992 127 pages \$14.95 (£10) Obtainable from Future Shock,

Glasgow. Reviewed by Edward Woo.

Having always been interested in naval vessels, the space programme and Star Trek, I found this book combining all three of my interests in depicting the history of the Enterprise. It's a nice A4 size book about how the famous name began and its possible future - an encyclopedia of facts, figures and a projected fiction of this ship. Each vessel has its history, details and major events it took part in in a few sentences. The major sections of the book are devoted to the aircraft carriers, the space shuttle and the Starships. There's even a blimp called after it!

In the Star Trek section it has a crew complement, projected time lines, stardates and a brief synopsis of each episode from Original, Animated, Movies to TNG (up to Unification). If you want a more detailed episode guide, this is not the book for you, but for a 'Janes World of the Enterprise' in history - this is it. Again costly, but I do enjoy collecting these large format books.

The best bits, I found, were the chronological events of the two aircraft carriers, even though this book is aimed at a ST audience.

STAR TREK VOLUMES 1 & 2 (SARABANDE) reviewed by Stephen Shaw

The records reviewed are NOT soundtrack albums. The word 'Sarabande' appears in the Star Tech catalogue but I have no idea why! I have the records on 'Label X', a trademark of Fifth Continent Music Corp, California. Pressing date is 1985. Both records were digitally recorded at Olympic Sound Studios, London (England) using a Sony PMC1610. Special thanks are given to several folk, led by Richard Arnold. The music is played by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, conducted by Tony Bremner, produced by Clyde Allen and John Lasher.

Each episode is a separate piece of music in which the various musical themes used in the episode are rearranged into a symphonic suite. The Courage fanfare is well recognisable in several places!
Volume 1: LXR703

Is There In Truth No Beauty. 19min 58 sec.
Composed and arranged by George Duning.
Paradise Syndrome. 19min 44 sec.
Composed by Gerard Fried, arranged by
Tony Bremner.

My Label X record has 16 colour still photos
on the back cover.

Volume 2: LXDR704

All tracks arranged by Clyde Allen, with help
from Tony Bremner on I, Mudd. Side 1 19
min 49 sec, side 2 19 min 59 sec.

Conscience of the King, composed by Joseph
Mullendore

Spectre of the Gun, composed by Jerry
Fielding

The Enemy Within, composed by Sol Kaplan
I, Mudd, composed by Samuel Matlovsky.
My Label X record has 16 colour still photos
on the back cover.

The recordings are available from Star
Tech; vol 1 on record at \$9.90 and each
volume (separately) on CD for \$19.95 each.

If you enjoy the symphonic suite
format - and it is not very demanding here -
and if you enjoy Star Trek's music, you will
love these records. They are great for
listening to as well as background. (My
copies came from Tom's SciFi Shop).



Crossword answers and references.

Across

1.Enterprise, 8.Photons, 9.Dove, 10.Fool,
11.God (The Final Frontier), 13.Indian,
14.Ensign, 17.Hat (The Cage, The Menagerie),
19.Tall (Manhunt), 20.Ruse (Samaritan Snare),
22. Shatner, 23.Calamarain (Deja Q)

Down

1.Evolved (Evolution), 2.Troi, 3.Rishon (The
Survivors), 4.Romulans, 5.Song (Datalore,
Brothers), 6.Qpid, 7.Roddenberry, 12.Bacteria
(A Matter of Honour), 13.I-Chaya
(Yesteryear), 15.Elisha (Cook, Jr - Court
Martial), 16.Guinan, 18.Tasha(The Naked
Now), 21.Data



ZINE REVIEW

SPINERISMS - An Annotated Bibliography
of Actor Brent Spiner ed K Joyce McDonald
Pub. Mindset Press. Available from Sheffield
Space Centre, £4.99

Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Although it is not an authorised-by-
the-actor publication, for the dedicated Brent
Spiner fan, this 57-page zine is a must. It
includes resumes of plays and films Mr.
Spiner has appeared in, critics' comments on
these, letters, a convention report, and more.
It gives a lot of information, and at £5 (for an
American zine) is, I think, good value.

GALAXY CLASS - an occasional magazine
published and edited by Christopher
Simmons under the imprint of Mindset Press,
PO Box 7000-822, Redondo Beach, CA 90277,
USA. (payment in favour of Mindset Press)
\$3.50 each plus postage, A4 size pages,

several illustrations in each copy. Reviewed
by Stephen Shaw.

Issue 8 - Feb. 1991 (32 pages)

Five stories, by Sandra Fungertut,
Yvonne L Fienleib, Michael S Lucart, Robert
Fabian, Polly G Kuhne. A short intro to a
story in the next issue and a history of vessels
bearing the name Enterprise (excluding
railway engines).

SHERLOCK AND IRENE - a short
story in which Riker is a trifle surprised to
meet his 'daughter' who has pointy ears,
turns out to be one quarter Romulan and
transfers to the Enterprise from a Klingon
ship! Nicely written cameo. **LOVING
MACHINES** - a lovely Data story involving
the ship's computer seeming to develop a
crush on him. Delightful, and well written. I
can visualise this one as a TV episode.

FINAL REPORT - a postscript to Geordi's adventures with the Romulans on Galandon Core, with the emphasis on how the Romulans dealt with the aftermath. **BASIC TRAINING** - covers Wesley's Academy training. Perhaps the weakest offering, being little more than Wesley at a US military academy in space. **LIFE'S SWEET FULFILMENT** - Mildly erotic very short cameo of Beverly and Picard after their marriage and with Beverly quite pregnant. Also Part 1 of a serial continued in issue 9, only one page!

Issue 9 - July 1991 (32 pages)

Just two stories, by Michael S Luchart and Pat Cunningham.

BEST OF BOTH WORLDS Part 2 - the lead story, quite a long one, is an **ALTERNATE** conclusion to Best of Both Worlds, where the Federation use their ultimate weapon (never considered in the TV series?) and where Worf shows just a glimmer of imperfection as he hesitates to fire at the Borg ship with Picard on board. The price is high as the story ends with the alliance with the Klingons apparently broken off. Nicely told and an excellent alternative. **MORALITY PLAY** - this one is for everyone who dislikes OR likes Wesley Crusher, a story in which he stars - and loses (or does he?) Recall the academy tests for one's worst fears? Play them out in a holodeck recreation and they can be really very, very mean indeed. The BBC would never show this one on TV, and no doubt Paramount would never get copyright clearance to make it - the enemy is well known to ST film fans, but not to young Wesley. Truly horrible and superbly written.

Issue 10 - Sept 1991 (32 pages)

You can send your Zine Ads to either Janet or Sheila. While we will try and print them in full we reserve the right to edit for length if necessary. We will print these ads in two consecutive newsletters only unless we receive an update.

Six stories, by Andra Marie Mueller, Shayne Wallesch, Karl T Smith, Cary G Osborne, Sheila K Smith and Mike Prentice.

THE GIFT - "...we made eye contact, I experienced a feeling that I had been waiting

all my life for him..." Only three pages! **THAT WHICH STEELS THE SOUL** - in which a violent part of Picard's past, involving the death of his wife Triana and his son Garland, haunts him as he must reface the same enemy. **THE NO-WIN SCENARIO** - Riker's Kobayashi Maru. Two pages. **HARD CHOICES** - How to evacuate a colony which has more colonists than the Enterprise can hold. Tautly told. **DREAMSTATE** - a vortex places the Human crew into a dream state in which to dream of death is fatal.

X-GEN 2 Ed Christopher L Simmons A4 format, 48 pages, some illustrations (nothing very explicit) From Mindset Press, \$6.50 + postage. Reviewed by Stephen Shaw.

Second - and final! - issue. Age statement required. Six stories, by Jeanne F Gallo, Michael and Polly Kuhne, Diane Gritz Murphy and C K Kulas.

TNG has not really addressed the problems the Holodeck can cause, apart from Mr Barclay/Broccoli! Fantasy is a creative AND recreational tool, so crew could maybe form long lines outside the holodeck - how do they book them? Any restrictions? There are a couple of interesting uses here!

NIGHT-SEA JOURNEY - an aftermath to The Host in which we see that the linkage between Riker and Troi can be quite interesting. Riker's experiences as host do not leave him unaffected. **WATER GAMES** - Beverly and Jean-Luc meet on the holodeck - is it Picard or a holodeck simulation? **MEANWHILE** - an alternative method of transmission for The Game. **BLUE** - a romantic rather than erotic adventure for Wesley at the Academy. **AMONG MY SOUVENIRS** - Jack Crusher leaves Beverly a use-once-only keepsake in an original usage of the holodeck. **TRIAD** - The Host comes back to haunt us again... different author, same idea, of Troi's bonding with Riker having other effects. The story makes it clear that the title is inappropriate - 'Quartet' would be better.

Short pieces, not totally explicit (if you know what I mean) and quite straight (-ish I suppose if you allow for Will and Deanna).

ZINE ADS

You can send your Zine Ads to either Janet or Sheila. While we will try and print them in full we reserve the right to edit for length if necessary. We will print these ads in two consecutive newsletters only unless we receive an update.

IDIC/Scotpress

IDIC LOG 10 - ENCOUNTERS AND COUNTERMOVES by Nicole Comtet. The Enterprise under Captain Spock is on a training cruise. U.K.£4.00

IDIC LOG - short stories by various writers. 7, 8, 9, 11 U.K. £4.00; 6, 5 U.K. £3.90, 4 U.K. £3.80; 3, 1 U.K. £3.60.

IDIC LOG 2 - ECHOES OF THE PAST by Christopher Ng. When the Excelsior disappears, the Enterprise is sent to look for her. U.K. £3.90.

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 87 - after Amok Time; McCoy and Spock go to survey a planet; Spock contracts a fatal disease; and others U.K. £4.00.

ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES 86 U.K. £4.00; 85 U.K.£3.90; 84 U.K. £3.80; 83 U.K. £3.70. - short stories by various writers.

MAKE IT SO 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 - short stories about the TNG characters. U.K. £4.00.

MAKE IT SO 5 - short stories about the TNG characters. U.K. £3.90.

Nos 1 - 4 out of print. Accepting submissions for issue 11 on.

CHOSEN BROTHER by Gloria Fry. Sequel to Gift Beyond Price and Kindred Spirit, set after Where No Man Has Gone Before. U.K. £3.15

CAPRICCIO ITALIEN by Sue Jones. The Enterprise picks up a Priority 1 call from Leonardo's Planet, but when the ship arrives there, everyone denies having sent it. Things however are not as peaceful as they seem. U.K. £3.90.

CITY WITHOUT WALLS by Alinda Alain. A sequel to One Among You. Although he has already been defeated, Mitchell's jealousy of Kirk and Spock forces him to keep on trying to destroy them. U.K. £2.95.

KINDRED SPIRIT by Gloria Fry - sequel to Gift. Mitchell cannot control his jealousy of Kirk and Spock. U.K. £3.25.

RETURN TO THE SOURCE by Nicole

Comtet. Spock must get some top secret information to Vulcan. U.K. £3.25.

LOVELY - A LITTLE PROBLEM by Brenda Kelsey - The ship is in quarantine after the tribble episode and to occupy the time is carrying a group of diplomats to their destination. U.K. £3.90.

ORCADIA by Joyce Devlin. A sequel to From Starship to Lancaster. Kirk as a naval Captain, circa 1939, investigates the sinking of the Royal Oak at Scapa Flow. U.K. £3.15.

ESSAYS OF AQUARIUS by Marion Van der Voort. The adventures of Captain Bill Sava, First Officer Radin and Dr. Teddy Bhaer of the Aquarius. THIS IS NOT STAR TREK but there are many resemblances. On

embarkation leave, Bill and Radin get to know each other; and we learn something about the Empire in which this series is set.

U.K. £5.00.

Still available a number of other titles. Order from Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee DD3 0PH. Please make cheques/POs payable to Scotpress. Visa/Access/Mastercard accepted.

Foreign prices: Europe, add £1 per zine; Australia/Japan write to Sheila for prices, enclosing an SAE + IRC.

We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell IDIC & Scotpress zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

We are soliciting submissions for IDIC and Scotpress zines - stories, poems, artwork - of both original Trek and TNG material, either short stories for IDIC LOG, ENTERPRISE - LOG ENTRIES or MAKE IT SO, or long ones suitable for printing on their own. No stories about death of main characters (except Yar!) or explicit sex; stories should include at least one character who has appeared in aired Trek. These are, after all, the voyages of the Starship Enterprise... (in either incarnation). **Send submissions of TNG material to Sheila Clark, 6 Craigmill Cottages, Strathmartine, by Dundee, Scotland, and Classic Trek material to Valerie Piacentini, 20 Ardrossan Rd, Saltcoats, Ayrshire, Scotland.**

BILL HUPE & PEG KENNEDY

For postage, add up the weight of the zines you want then check the postage table.

Weight	Air	Surface
Up to 2 lbs	\$16.35	\$8.60
Up to 3 lbs	\$22.40	\$11.40
Up to 4 lbs	\$27.40	\$13.90
Up to 5 lbs	\$33.75	\$17.25

For higher weights, add **\$4.50/lb air**, **\$2.25 surface**.

ABODE OF STRIFE 18 - Spock and McCoy match wits with the world's greatest detective; Kirk Spock and McCoy discover the remains of a landing party; and more. **\$14 + 1 lb 4 oz postage**

BLIND SPINNER - special issue of Hellguard Social Register. A novel by FanQ award-winning writer Eunice Raymond. An Earth colony world in the Federation's boondocks... a lone Romulan set there by chance or fate in an otherwise Human society... The Enterprise is ordered to investigate possible unauthorised goings-on. **\$12.50 + 1 lb 4 oz postage**

NI VAR 3 - A pair of Spock-Chapel novels, the first a sequel to his own Ni Var 2 (Abode of Strife 7) by Richard Pollet; Chapel and Spock must come to grips with the legacy that their time travel has created when one of their son's ancestors is assigned to the Enterprise; the second an alternate sequel by Debra Wimer, where a rejected Chapel must fight to regain what she lost in Richard's original storyline. **\$6.00 + 11 oz postage**

A MATTER OF HONOR 1 - A young Beverly Crusher dreams of her future; a full-length novel by Roberta Rogow: Picard must undertake a dangerous mission into Romulan territory; and more. **\$14.00 + 1 lb 2 oz postage**

RESURRECTION - a novel by Richard Van Frank. Ensign Crusher is given permission to join an elitist group of 'time cops' on a special mission, and returns to find Tasha Yar alive and well... and then Q hijacks the Enterprise. **\$8.50 + 13 oz postage**

SHIP'S LOG SUPPLEMENTAL (ST:TNG) - Features lots of fan fiction as well as some articles from groups like the Galactic Engineers and some engineering 'blueprints'. **1 - 5, \$8.50 + postage, No.6 \$7.50 + postage, all issues 13 oz**

DATA ENTRIES 15 & 16 - we now have copies of the latest issue as well as all back

issues of the Brent Spiner/Data newsletter. **\$1.50 + postage (3.5 oz)**

STAR TREK ARMCHAIR EDITOR (PAL VHS) - A special video by Paul Gadzikowski. Star Trek Computer Animation forms a special original Trek episode - furry critters invade the Enterprise. Also available in NTSC. **\$9.50 + 13 oz postage**.

We are authorised to reprint the following fanzines - Stardate Unknown 1 - 5, R & R, Archives, Showcase, Masiform D, Grup, Quartet + 2, all T'Kuhlian Press titles (Warped Space, Obsc'zine) and many other classic out of print fanzines; many other titles available. SASE + 4 IRCs for a full list. We can accept personal cheques from the U.K. Please add 1.5% for bank charges. Bill Hupe & Peg Kennedy - Footrot Flats, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554 USA. **Please note change of address. The Trowbridge Road address was a box number which is no longer operating.** Authorised US agent for Scotpress, IDIC, BSFR, Kay Staggs & Pat Mitchell. We now have two agents in Britain; Susan Ford, 5 Tyrell Rise, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5LE, England (SAE her for complete list of our zines; she collects orders for case shipments) or Janet Ellicott (see below) - SAE her for British prices.

Greycloud Services

Large number of zines available in several fandoms. US Star Trek zines include **DEFORREST KELLY COMPENDIUM (£14); ENCOUNTERS (£10.50); HELLGUARD SOCIAL REGISTER (£10); IN A DIFFERENT REALITY 21,22 (£6.50 each); LONESTAR TREK (No. 2, £8, No. 3, £10); KRAITH COLLECTED (5 volumes, £8 each)** (Age statement required) **R&R (15 different volumes, £10 each)** (Age statement required). Please add 10% of total order for postage & packing. I can accept payment in bank notes from overseas and personal cheques from the US only, otherwise payment should be in sterling. SAE for list of other zines and prices. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney, London E9 6RN, England.

Linda Wood -

CENTRE STAGE - 3 stories of Leonard Nimoy characters - Stryker from Get Smart, Lord Achmet from Marco Polo and Ben

Blacker from M-Squad. Artwork by Caryll Sibbett. UK £3, Europe £5, Australia/Japan £6, USA \$10 inc surface postage.

CENTRE STAGE 2 - 78 pages of stories and poems covering the whole range of Leonard Nimoy's characters, from Zombies of the Stratosphere to ST:TNG - Sarek, including convention prizewinners. Artwork by Sue Toher. UK £5, Europe £7, Australia/Japan £11 air, £7 surface, USA \$20 air, \$15 surface. Please state type of postage.

AHMAD - 200 pages of historical fiction on the turbulent life of Ahmat Fanakati, Leonard Nimoy's character from the TV miniseries Marco Polo. **Adult statement required.** Artwork by Sue Toher. UK £8, Europe £11.50, Australia/Japan £20 air, £11 surface, USA \$35 air, \$22 surface. Please state type of postage.

Zines copyright Tsacla Press. All available from Linda C Wood, 186 Copland Rd, Glasgow G51 2UN, Scotland.

ZINES by Kay Staggs

Genzines - Kirk/Spock orientated hurt/comfort. Please make cheques or postal orders payable to Kay Staggs and send orders to 33 Barrack Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6RU. Postage and packing included in the price (second class).

SECOND CHANGE/A COLD BY ANY OTHER NAME (Previously appeared in Stargate and Stargate II) 75 pages £3. **TROUBLES REVISITED/THE RIFT/ JUSTICE SHOULD BE SEEN**

TO BE DONE (previously appeared in Stargate III and Enterprise Log Entries 61 (ScoTpress)) 95 pages, £3.60. **FREEDOM** - full length story 167 pages £4.80. **TOO MANY AVENUES** - full length story £4.80. **IN PERSPECTIVE** - full length story 177 pages £4.80. For other items, ie pens, pencils, notebooks, bookmarks, etc, please send SAE for information. I have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell these zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Merry Men Press

FIRST TIME zines contain K/S stories, art and poetry. Age statement required.

FIRST TIME is always on time. All inquiries and orders are promptly filled, no-one's left to hang on the line. SAE (addressed envelope

and 2 IRCs) for more info. **FIRST TIME 1 - 33** available.

HEARTS OF FIRE a K/S novel by Elizabeth Scott - an intriguing mystery, and lots and lots of love. **SHARING THE SUNLIGHT** - K/S novel by Jenna Sinclair. 200 pages fully illustrated by Chris Soto. Plot, love and Trek. What else can you ask for? **GAMBIT**, a Mirror/'our' universe K/S novel by Kay Wells. **WITHIN THE MIRROR 1 - 6** - an all mirror-related K/S zine, series and movie. Full of first time stories, and on time.

BESIDE MYSELF 1 - 3 - well-illustrated K/S zines exclusively written by Robin Hood and her assorted pen names. **FETISH** - a K/S novel by Jenny Starr. Winner of 1988 Best Novel. **PORTRAITS** - A K/S novel by Charlotte Frost. **SCATTERED STARS 1 - 4** - an alternate universe K/S fanzine where wild imagination and first time plots collide. **PLAYFELLOWS 1 - 4 - MULTIMEDIA** '/' If you know what slash is, you don't need any more words. Prices for all zines are \$20.00 US, \$22.00 Canada, \$26.00 foreign. US currency only please. We are also looking for quality submissions of prose and art. Merry Men Press, 274 Roanoke Rd, El Cajon, CA 92020, USA.

ENTERPRISE ORIGINALS Publications

MANY A SLIP: a collection of short stories and poems of a humorous nature by various writers, edited by Sue Jones. Order from Jacqueline Comben, Post Cottage, Rhossili, Gower, Swansea, SA3 1PL, South Wales. Price; £1.25 for EOs members, £1.75 for others. Add 35p for Postage and packing. Cheques in sterling only to Enterprise Originals.

BSFR

Many titles available. SAE for list to Neville Taylor, BSFR Zines, 48 Picton St, Montpellier, Bristol BS6 5QA. We have authorised Bill Hupe to reprint and sell BSFR zines in America, Canada and APO/FPO outside Britain; send to him for prices, enclosing a SAE.

Kathleen Resch

K/S zines - age statement required

T'HY'LA 12 new, \$26.00 air, \$20.00 surface. **T'HY'LA 1, 3-5, 7-9** (short stories) \$24.00 each, air, \$20.00 each surface; **T'HY'LA 10 &**

11 \$26.00 each, air, \$20.00 surface. No. 2, novel **The Things I Cannot Change** \$24.00 air, \$20.00 surface; No. 6, \$18.00 air, \$15.00 surface. No. 13 is open for submissions. **BEFORE THE GLORY** (short stories) \$24.00 air; **DAY OF VENGEANCE**, novel by Jean Lightfoot and C. Del Rio, \$19.00 air; **THE PRICE OF FREEDOM** - novel by Jean Lightfoot. Spock has disappeared; Kirk risks both life and career to find him - but when he does, he finds a drug-addicted stranger... \$26.00 air, \$20.00 surface. Zines from other fandoms also available. Kathleen Resch, PO Box 1766, Temple City, CA 91780, USA.

FOREVER PRODUCTIONS

EDGE OF FOREVER III - includes a 60,000 word novel, **THE GUMSHOE INCIDENT** by S Bookman. Kirk and Spock return to Lotia a year after negotiating 'a piece of the action'. What's going on is murder! **ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE** by J Miller - Janice Rand is missing. **DISCOVERIES** by M Pecor - Kirk, Spock & McCoy anticipate their new working relationship at the beginning of the 5-year mission; and others. Europe air, \$25.00. Also available, **EDGE OF FOREVER II**, Europe air, \$20.00 and **EDGE OF FOREVER I**, Europe air, \$15.00; **THE TREKZINE TIMES**, a letterzine about fanzines, featuring articles about publishing, editing, writing, etc; as well as featuring readers' letters. Published quarterly, Europe air \$16.00. For detailed info send 2 IRCs to Forever Publications, Dept 1D, PO Box 75, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10276, USA.

THE SMALL PRINTERS

CLOSER THAN A BROTHER by Meg Wright. (Reprint) £6.75 inclusive of p&p. **HOOPS OF STEEL** by Meg Wright. (Reprint) £4.25 inclusive of p&p. Star Trek and Professionals zines, new and reprinted. SAE for prices and availability to L. R. Muir, 1 Moor Park Avenue, Leeds LS6 4BT.

HIATUS PRESS

A LEGEND BEGINS by Barbara Alleyn. A biography of the early life of James T. Kirk. 200+ pages. Printed on A5 with card covers and spiral bound. Price £5.30 inc postage. US price \$14.00 inc postage. Cheques should be made payable to Barbara E. Ellams. Hiatus Press, Flat 2, 32 St Mary's Road, London SE15

2DW

LONESTAR TREK No. 4 Original Trek and TNG. Original Trek novellas by Lynn Syck & Mary Rottler, and Lorraine Anderson; stories by Laurie D. Haynes and Jan Meek; art by Kay Wells and Brett Barham. Special 25th anniversary colour cover by Kay Wells. Approximately 200 pages. \$19 US, \$20 Can, \$26 Europe, \$28 Pacific. Still available - No. 1 \$20 OS Airmail, No.2 & No.3 \$25 OS Airmail, Classic Trek and TNG stories. **ST - LONESTAR TREK No.5**. Seeking Classic Trek submissions for this issue which will be all Classic. Any length story is fine but must revolve around at least one of the "Big Three" (Kirk, Spock, and McCoy). Stories with a hurt-comfort theme are particularly welcome. No slash. Also accepting art submissions - send photocopy examples of your artwork. All submission should be accompanied by a SASE. Deadline Aug. 1, 1992. **STNG - SECOND GENERATION No. 1**. Now seeking art and story submissions (no slash) for this new Next Gen zine from the publishers of LoneStar Trek. High quality format, hurt-comfort, action adventure, and relationships. Must focus on at least one of the main characters. Gloss colour cover by Patti Prevett. Send photocopy examples of your artwork. All submissions should be accompanied by an SASE. Send orders and submissions to LoneStar Trek, c/o Laurie Haynes/Jan Meek, 335 Smith Lake Road, Vidor, TX 77662, U.S.A.

VILLAGE PRESS

THE EXTREMISTS by Eva Stuart. The Klingon Peace hangs in the balance. All eyes are on the Enterprise, the Ahrax and fleet. Their scientific mission must not fail. Human honesty confronts Klingon honour. Can the fighting really stop? K/S and adult relationships; age statement please. Price to be announced; SAE for flyer (U.S. 2 IRCs or \$1).

VOICE 5 - Dangerous intrigue at Starfleet HQ. McCoy has a 'little list'. Plague on New Paris. Contains a prequel to *The Extremists*. UK £5.50, Europe £6.50, Canada £8.50, Australia £9.50, USA \$21.00.

IN THE WILDERNESS 1 - Stories by Frances Rowes, Vivian Gates, Kathleen Resch and

others. Highly original writing from some of fandom's best talents. UK £6.50, Europe £8.00, Canada £10.00, Australia £11.50, USA \$23.00
IN THE WILDERNESS 2 - Why didn't Spock say his father was the Vulcan Ambassador? How does Amanda put up with husband and son? Why must Kirk and Spock take to the desert? And much more! Prices as ITW1.

IN THE WILDERNESS 3 is next in line. I would like more stories, preferably established relationship; political, original, humour would be nice but please no S/Mc, menage or death. New writers, gentle, caring editor would like to see your work. (K/S only please).

Please note VOICE 1 - 4 are out of print. Orders already in for No. 2 will be filled as soon as possible. Mrs. Rosemary Wild, 'Cwm Croeser', Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hants. K/S and adult relationships. Age statement, please.

Sue Embury-

THE BETTER MAN. Alternative "Turnabout Intruder" story, in which Kirk is trapped in the body of a woman and no-one except Spock recognises his plight. UK price - £5. Overseas surface mail - £5 sterling banknote plus 4 IRCs.

THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Now reprinted. At the end of the five year mission Kirk is given a secret mission, McCoy is called upon to help out as a country doctor, while Spock returns to Vulcan in search of a wife. UK price - £4.25. Overseas surface mail - £5 sterling bank note.

Both available from: Sue Embury, Lower Bailea, Tregare, Monmouth. Gwent NP5 4JL

CONTAGION ONE - All of the fan fiction entered in the Contagion '92 writing competition contained in a single volume with a specially written forward by Jean Lorrain! Price £3.80 inclusive of p&p (ALL PROFITS TO CHARITY). Cheques/Postal Orders made payable to Contagion. Available from Contagion, P.O. Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR.

Hailing all writers of *original* Star Trek stories and poems, both Gen and K/S!! and artists!! "OUTPOST" will be publishing both Gen (The Preserver's Chronicles) and K/S (The Preservers Secret Chronicles) zines in the

near future and is looking for submissions. We are willing to consider *all* subjects, as long as they deal with Kirk, Spock, McCoy and the crew of the Enterprise (including all the films!). All contributors will, of course, receive a complimentary copy of the zine in which their material is printed. Please send to: "OUTPOST", Bettina Rackel and Karen Hayden, Am Tannenbusch 31, 4192 Kalkar, West Germany.

MOMENTS IN TIME, an adult TNG zine of short stories by Pat Mitchell. 100+ pages, spiral-bound. Send SAE for flyer. Will not knowingly be sold to anyone under 18. Prices include p&p: UK £5.50, Europe £6.50, USA 415 (air), \$12 (surface). Other countries send IRC for price. Sterling and dollar cheques accepted payable to Pat Mitchell. Order from: 38 Ashbourne Grove, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 4JU, England. Note: Available in US from Bill Hupe, send him SASE for price.

Hummers Ink

NAKED NOW ONE - a zine of Picard/Crusher stories. R3.50 within South Africa; foreign, "make me an offer". Available from Marina Bailey, P.O. Box 74151, Turffontein, Johannesburg 2140, Rep. of South Africa.

SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM, an occasional not-quite monthly newsletter of media & SFAN news from Bjo Trimble. Subscription Rates for 6 issues: USA \$5 Bulk mail, \$8 First Class, Canada \$9 Air Printed Matter, Overseas \$12 Air Printed Matter. Make cheques/money orders payable to: Bjo Trimble. Bjo Trimble, 2059 Fir Springs Drive, Kingwood, TX 77339-1701, USA.

HiFi Media

M3 - an A5, laser printed, 32 page, multi media zine. Facts, fiction and fun!

M3 : ISSUE ONE - We look at the various remakes of STAR TREK, gauging the fan reactions to them and offer OPINIONS on whether the original series is worthy of the title "Classic". We take an indepth look at SAPPHIRE AND STEEL, reminisce about THE CLANGERS, detail the video anti copying system MACROVISION and present photos and comments on rarer items of telefantasy MERCHANDISE. Also the first

part of the hilarious **DOCTOR WHO AND THE ATTACK OF THE TARGET WRITERS**, Who exhibitions in Paisley, and **WAFFLE!**

M3 :ISSUE TWO - Available 1st October. We consider Honor Blackman and Diana Rigg **AVENGERS** episodes, take an indepth look at **MAX HEADROOM**, compare **STINGRAY** with **VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA** and **NEXT GENERATION** novels with **DOCTOR WHO** New Adventures novels. **OPINION** considers possible formats for a new series of **DOCTOR WHO** whilst the Doctor concludes his adventure with **THE TARGET WRITERS**. Also **TECH** on Widescreen TV, **MERCHANDISE** and the inevitable **WAFFLE!** Each issue costs £1.50 including postage; cheques/POs payable to Stuart Halliday, M3, 35 Pinewood Park, Deans, Livingston, EH54 8NN.

INFINITE FRONTIERS

Infinite Frontiers is a relatively new fan publishing team, devoted to releasing the best possible zines we can. We pride ourselves in specialising in article-based zines, not unlike club newsletters. Our first release is the unique title, **THE FINAL FRONTIER**, a magazine on **DISK** for owners of the Commodore Amiga computer!! To our knowledge, this is the world's first disk based magazine to feature Trek. Our first three issues are available and feature work from top artists and musicians on the Amiga including Tobias Richter and Bjorn Lynn along with a selection of art and photos. Each issue also contains **AT LEAST 200 A4** pages of text!

Prices for the first three issues are: Issue 1 (2 disks) - £3, Issue 2 (3 disks) - £4 and Issue 3 (4 disks!) - £5. All prices include P&P. Overseas orders are welcome but please add £0.50 per issue towards postage. As a special offer to **IDIC** members, order all 3 issues for only £10 (£11 overseas inc P&P) saving at least £2. All orders must be in sterling and made payable to: Simon Plumbe, 14 Rousdon Grove, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 5HN, England. Please mention **IDIC** when replying.

WANTED Trek writers to submit storylines, synopses, ideas for a totally 100% graphic fiction zine with a view to adapting into comic-strip form. Any eras, any type of story (though I'm not keen on K/S). Full writers'

credit given and approval sought on script development. Dr Who stories also wanted for established zine of similar nature. Curious?... For more information write to: Martin Street/Regenerate Productions, 52 Cobden Street, Palfrey, Walsall, West Midlands.

ORION PRESS

ERIDANI 18 and many other titles available; U.K. contact Deanna Susans, 42 Staff House Rd, Runwell Hospital, Wickford, Essex SS11 7PZ for titles, prices and availability. Deanna is acting as contact address for this American editor, accepting and distributing orders.

HORIZON, the Blake's Seven Appreciation Society produces a range of more than 20 fanzines, including **HORIZON issues 1 through 16** (club zine - general B7 fiction/art), Interviews, the Horizon Technical Manual, single story zines, and more. Our zines are all professionally printed. New: **HORIZON 15**, **HORIZON 16**, **BEST OF SPACEFALL 2**, **TECHNICAL MANUAL III**, car stickers. For our zine list, please send an SAE (or US\$1 bill or 2 IRCS for overseas) to: Miss Ann Steele, Horizon Zine Sales, 66 Sherwood Park, Sutton, Surrey SM1 2SG, UK.

ROBIN HOOD; ROBIN OF SHERWOOD - Tree of Life 4 accepts anything based on Robin Hood. Currently looking for Robin of Sherwood, Prince of Thieves (Kevin Costner), Robin Hood with Patrick Bergen & Uma Thurman; crossovers, apocryphal... in other words, anything based on Robin Hood. The zine accepts mild adult themes (no slash). Three pieces of art (ink or photocopied material only) or poetry will earn a contributor's copy. Stories should be at least 5 pages in length. Deadline for contributions, January 1st 1993. Todd Parrish, 269 West 400 North No. A, Provo, Utah 84601, USA. Tree of Life 1, 2 & 3 are strictly Robin of Sherwood issues. Available from Bill Hupe (see above for address).

AIRWAVES: Multi-media fan-fiction zine, 26 issues currently available. Also available, **THE HOODED MAN** (Robin of Sherwood) - **KNIGHT 2000** (Knight Rider - FIGHT INTO

SLAVERY (B7 crossover with Battlestar Galactica). In preparation, **CHILDREN OF PEACE** (V). Submissions welcome for any and all publications, no limits to length. Amstrad/Locoscript 1 or 2 users can submit their work on 3" disc (180k) or 3.5" disc (720k). Compatible computers, please use ASCII for documents. Discs will be sent back by return of post, manuscripts if requested. SAE for further details to: Miss B Callagher, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

CITYPRESS/OUTER ZINE

Boldly going where everyone has gone before, an all-new combined newsletter and zine! What more could you ask for??? (Please see our OUTER ZONE ad in the

"Local Group News" section for details of The Outer Zone SF/Fantasy club.) Each issue costs just 85p inc. p&p! We have back issues of **ZONE GUIDE** Nos 1-4 available for just £2.00 inc. p&p. Just out is **ZONE GUIDE - PHASE II, Issue No. 1** (January 1992 edition) which has the **WHOLE** plot to Star Trek VI and the latest TNG info, stories, art, a Blakes Seven column and more! **Issue No. 2** (out April 1992) will see the start of an **EXCLUSIVE!** We will be publishing the first part of an **ACTUAL SUBMITTED TNG SCRIPT** called "The Ghosts of Yesteryear"! What are you waiting for??? Please send cheques/p.o. payable to Susan Parker, 42 Victoria Street, BRIGHTON, East Sussex, BN1 3FQ, or an SAE for more details.

☆☆☆☆

CONVENTIONS/ADVERTS/CLUBS/

CONVENTIONS / GET-TOGETHERS

KON 1992 - Star Trek Convention 13th-15th November, 1992.

The Arcade Hotel, Birmingham City Center. Room Rates: £22 Twin/Double, £30 Single (inclusive). Registration: £12.00 weekend, Fri £5.00, Sat £6.00, Sun £3.00. Guest John Carrigan. Friday Night Cinema Showing of STVI, Sales Rooms, Games, Kings and Queens Theme Party, Laserzone Klingon Hunt, Next Generation Video Room and lots, lots more...for an adult, £7.00 for one day.

LONDON AWAY TEAM CONVENTION 1992. Sunday 29th November, 1992. 11.0am - 6.00pm. University of London Student's Union, Malet Street, WC1, Close to Euston Mainline Station and Goadge Street Underground Station.

The main events will include a large dealers' room, a full exciting video programme featuring ST:TNG Season 5 episodes and other seldom seen interesting stuff! There will be raffles, prizes, and most importantly, a BAR!!!

Registration: Full £8, conc. £5. Charity: Royal Marsden Children's Cancer Unit. For more details send a SAE to L.A.T.Con (Registration), 36 Evenwood Close, Carlton

Drive, Putney SW15 2DA

STARBASE 93 Star Trek Convention. January 29th-31st 1993, Hilton International Hotel, Leeds. Guest of Honour: James Doohan, other guests to be confirmed. Video rooms showing Original Trek, Latest TNG and hopefully Deep Space 9!!! An alternative non-Trek programme will also be screened. Other activities will include; Fancy Dress, Discos, Dealers tables, Auctions, Art/Model & Fiction competitions and more. Registration: £30 Adult, £15 child under 14, Under 5's go free. Discounts on these prices available now, for a limited time. Hotel room rates pppn, incl. full English Breakfast & VAT; £30 single, £22.50 twin/double and £20 triple. Send SAE for further details and registration form to: Carol Looby, 152 Otley Road, Headingley, Leeds LS16 5JX.

TREK/DWARF The First Star Trek/Red Dwarf Convention. 5th - 7th March, 1993.

The Swallow Hotel, Peterborough. £25.00 before July - £35.00 after July.

Events include: All available episodes of both shows (inc. American Red Dwarf and ST:DS9 - if available.), Sales Tables, Fancy Dress, Disco, Laser Battles, Quizzes and much more. **GUESTS TO BE ANNOUNCED.** For

further information write enclosing 2 SAEs to: TREK DWARF, 47 Marsham, Orton Goldhay, Peterborough PE2 5RN.

WARP ONE: The 35th British Star Trek Convention. 30th April - 3rd May, 1993

At the Middleton Tower Holiday Centre, Morecambe, Lancs.

Registration: £30, under 16s half price, under 5s free. Day and supporting registrations available. Accommodation: £26.70 PPPN if paying before 18/3/93, £33.30 PPPN after 18/3/93. Under 16s half price, under 2s free. The rate is for full board accommodation. Guests to be announced, parties, disco, video programmes, the usual competitions plus some surprises. In aid of Cancer Research.

For more details and a registration form send an SASE to Warp One, 69 Merlin Crescent, Edgware, Middlesex HA8 6JB.

CONTAGION the Scottish Star Trek Convention. 17-19 July, 1993. Venue: The Hospitality Inn, Glasgow. Guests to be announced. Registration (until 1 January, 1993): Adult (15 years +) - £30; 10-14 years - £15, under 10 Free. Note: children under 10 must be accompanied by at least one paying adult. Creche facilities will NOT be available. Special discount for Contagion '92 attendees and Away Team Members until 1st January 1993 - ask for details. Hotel rates (per person per night): Single £35, Twin/Double £25; Triple £20. Price is for Bed & Breakfast and includes VAT and Service. £15 per person non-refundable deposit at time of booking. For further info send a 9" x 6" SAE to CONTAGION, PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR, Scotland.

HOLODECK The 36th British Star Trek Convention. 27th - 30th August, 1993

Telford Moat House Hotel. In aid of the Invalid Childrens' Aid Nationwide Charity. Confirmed Guests: Geoff Ryman (author of "Spock In Manacles"), Freda Warrington (fantasy author of the "Blackbird" series), Dr Julian Headlong (scientist extraordinaire and a wonderful speaker on topics such as alcohol and Vulcan biochemistry) and Janet Quarton. Registration: Full £25, Fri/Sat or Sun/Mon £15, Sat/Sun £20, 1 day £10, Supporting £10. Child 10-16 half the above rates, under 10s free. Hotel Rates, per person per night,

inclusive of full English Breakfast and VAT: £25 sharing a twin or double, £32 in a single. Send an SAE for further info and registration form to: Holodeck 93, P.O. Box 29, Hitchin, Herts SG4 9TG.

LIGHTSPEED '93 Star Trek: The Next Generation Convention. 17th-19th Sept. 1993 The Hilton International Hotel, Leeds. Registration: £20 full, £12.50 one day, £10 supporting, £10 child 5-14 years, FREE under 5. Room Rates: £25 ppn (£40 Single occ/ in Double room). Charities RSPCA, Save the Children, Trees for Survival and The Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Aim: To raise £2,000 for the above charities. Guests TBA (Please note there will be NO American Guests). Events: Videos, talks, competitions, bars, food, displays, dealers and lots more. Send SAE to Lightspeed '93, 16 Bramwell Street, Eastwood, Rotherham, S. Yorkshire S65 1RZ.

1974-1993 BRITISH STAR TREK ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION October 1st - 3rd, 1993. The Holiday Inn, Leicester. Registration: £40.00 until June 1993, then £45.00 thereafter (payment by instalments if required) - SPECIAL DISCOUNT for attendees of 1st BRITISH STAR TREK CONVENTION - LEICESTER 1974. Full details from: Terry Elson, 8 Ennerdale Close, Oadby, Leicester LE2 4TN.

The 37th: UFP CON '94 29th April to 2nd May 1994, Britannia International Hotel, London. Registration: £25 until 31/12/92, £30 thereafter. Under 16's half price, under 10's free. Accommodation: £27.50 per person in a twin, double or triple, £31.00 in a single. For a registration form and further details please send an SAE to Ros Liddle, 61 The Scotchhill, Coventry CV6 2EW.

MISC

AWAYTEAM '93 10th - 25th March 1993. Join the Away Team for an action-packed 15 day holiday to San Francisco, Las Vegas and Los Angeles - taking in El Capitan and Yosemite National Park, an old fashioned Western Township, the Grand Canyon, Disneyland, Universal Studios, Vasquez Rocks and other places familiar to Trekkers.

Inclusive price £825. For more details and a booking form, please contact Mrs Sadie Mason, 20 Shepley Road, Rednal, Birmingham B45 8SP. *Please note - this group is not connected to The Away Team (Glasgow).*

NON STAR TREK EVENTS

CONCERT 3 Kings Manor Hotel, Edinburgh Oct 30th - 1st Nov '92. GOH: Peter Morwood & Diane Duane. Media/SF con with big masquerade party, Japanime and video programmes, quizzes, movie review panel, charity slave auction. Attending £20 (£17 stewards) £10 supporting. Info: Jette Goldie, 97 Harrison Road, Edinburgh EH11.

TRANSYLVANIA '92 at the Mount Royal Hotel, Marble Arch, London on 31 October 1992. Costs £25.00 including Midnight film showing, £20.00 day only plus 3 SAEs for progress reports. Meet the guests, a chance to dress, and your chance to eat at the real Frankenstein Place - win a meal on US! For registration forms send an SAE to TRANSYLVANIA '92, 1 Elm Grove, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9HE, England.

Overseas please enclose I.R.C.'s.

WHO'S SEVEN: Blake's 7/Dr Who Convention to be held on 30 Oct - 1 Nov 1992 at the Telford Moat House Hotel, Shropshire, England. Guests include Gareth Thomas, Jacqueline Pearce, Colin Baker, Peter Tuddenham and Sheila Wells. Events include panels, Gambit Banquet, work-shops, art show, fancy dress, competitions, dealers room, filk etc. Registration £25 weekend, £20 2-day, £15 1-day, 4-16 half price, under 4's free. For more information send a SASE (SAE & IRC for overseas) to Henry Eggleton, "Valhalla", 137 High Street, Plaistow, Broadway, London E13 9HH.

ARMADACON 4 SF & Fantasy Convention. 7-8 November, 1992 at the Astor Hotel, Plymouth. Guests to include (work permitting) John Carrigan, Adrian Cole and Fantasy Illustrators Roger and Linda Garland. Events to include: Guest Panels, Authors' Readings, signings, Turkey Reading, Displays, Dealers' Room, two video rooms. Registration Rates: until May '92 £18, one day

£10, from June 1st £20, one day £12. Special rates for students and unemployed upon request. For more details write to: ArmadaCon, c/o 4 Gleneagle Avenue, Mannamead, Plymouth, Devon PL3 5HL. Please enclose an SASE.

THE TWELFTH LEONARD NIMOY CONVENTION: November 20th - 22nd, 1992 at the Stakis Victoria Hotel, Nottingham. A programme of films spanning the career of Leonard Nimoy and including many rarely, if ever, seen in Britain. Registration fee: £15.00. For form and full details, please send SAE to Carol Davies, 77 The Ridings, Ealing, London W5 3DP.

ACTION 93 A Weekend of ITC Entertainment eg. The Saint, Randall & Hopkirk (Deceased), Thunderbirds, The Prisoner and Persuaders. March 26-28th 1993.

Shepperton Moat House, Shepperton Middx. Registration £30 - £40 for the weekend depending on associated club membership. For details and registration form send SAE to Clair Saunders, 12 Saville Crescent, Ashford, Middx TW15 1SX.

UNIFICATION: 9th-12th April 1993, Britannia International Hotel, London. A multi-media SF and fantasy convention. Registration: £25. Accommodation: £27.50 per person per night in a twin, double or triple, £31.00 in a single. For registration form and further details please write to Ros Liddle, 61 The Scotchhill, Coventry CV6 2EW.

MASQUERADES '93 2nd Major Beauty & the Beast convention, 28-31 May 1993. The Grand Hotel Birmingham. Registration £37.00 (includes meal at the Sunday evening banquet). Room Rates £30 per night single, £25.00 pppn in twin/double, £23.00 pppn in a triple (includes full English breakfast and VAT @ 17.5%). All the usual goodies; guest so far Armin Shimerman, others to be announced. For reg. form send SASE to: Jacqui Clarke, 12 Jessop Close, Leasingham, Sleaford, Lincs NG34 8LJ.

UNICON '93 Universal Science Fiction Convention (presented by BSFR). Venue:

Unicorn Hotel, Bristol 25th - 27th June, 1993. Registration: Adults £20, kids under 14 £10, under fives free. Highlights will include: full video programme including Klingon Extravaganza - guest talks & panels - static displays - dealers' room - disco & fancy dress party - all kinds of science fiction and fantasy material plus lots of fun fun fun! Send an SASE for full details to: Bernie Walsh, 55 Kildare Road, Knowle, Bristol BS4 1

FRIENDSHIP COLUMN

Friendship adverts will be printed in one newsletter.

Is there a local Star Trek club in my area - Cornwall or maybe Devon? I would also like a penfriend, both locally and around the world. I am 32 years old and enjoy Classic Star Trek. Becky Gray, 1 Boskenna Rd, Four Lanes, Redruth, Cornwall TR6 6LS.

I would very much like a Star Trek penfriend, preferably a Next Generation fan who like reading novels. I would also like to make contact with other ST fans in Northern Ireland or the Republic of Ireland. Douglas Burke, 2 Glenmachan Park, Belfast BT4 2PJ, Northern Ireland.

SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept any liability. Adverts should be a maximum of 10 lines - will be printed in one newsletter only.

Please remember it is illegal to offer videos for sale, except for official copies - although there is no law against asking. It is also in breach of copyright to advertise photocopies of zines, and unfair to request them, without the permission of the editor. Adverts will therefore be edited if necessary.

FOR SALE - ST novels, average £1.50 each (inc P&P); also Star Trek zines - old, new, US, a few K/S. SAE for list to Lynne Buckley, 160 Fairway Rd, Shepshed, Loughborough, Leics LE12 9HQ

FOR SALE - large format Star Trek books, some helpful for role-playing games. SAE for

list to Katrina Heintz, 23 Birniehill Ave, Bathgarte, West Lothian, EH48 2RR

FOR SALE - James Blish Adaptations 1 - 6 and Spock Must Die! One set only, so please enquire with SAE initially. Excellent condition. £1.00 each or £5.00 the set. Marise Morland-Chapman, 12 Marsh Court, London Road, High Wycombe, Bucks. HP11 1EW.

FOR SALE - Star Trek Trading cards, the new Next Generation (120 cards) £8, 25th Anniversary series I and II £8 each, single cards available on all sets 10p each. Shell Petrol Star Trek Game cards 15p each. Postage £1 first set, others add 50p; single cards SAE. Mark French, 23 Colgrove, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6HY.

FOR SALE - Pro-set Thunderbirds cards & 25th Anniversary Classic series I. 10p a card plus S.A.E. or 50p for post and packing. I have no complete sets for sale. Mark Killelay, 103 Ropery Road, Gainsborough, Lincs DN21 2NU.

FOR SALE: I have much in the way of Trek merchandise, both Classic and TNG, for sale. Items include magazines, books, 1st & 2nd season TNG videos, delux second edition role-playing game. Prices? I am open to offers! David Jon Thorne, 1 Brookside Close, Batheaston, Bath BA1 7HW, tel 0225 859078.

FOR SALE - Classic Trek & TNG collection; novels (£2) /magazines /calendars /photos/ jigsaws also other sci fi/TV related merchandise - Dr Who/Dune/Bladerunner/Star Wars/Planet of the Apes, Professionals/Bond. Please send S.A.E/ for list to; Graham Probert, 38 Abertillery Road, Blaina, Gwent, NP3 3DW, South Wales.

FOR SALE - Original Star Trek Technical Manual - in original black wallet - mint condition. Star Trek Blueprints - set of 12 originals published in 1975. Complete with wallet - mint condition. Offers to Alan Notley, 83 Ferndene Grove, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne. Tel: 091 266 6365 .

FOR SALE - ST zines, both gen and K/S. For lists contact EITHER Kathryn Boag, 1 Sidlaw Avenue, Hamilton, Lanarkshire ML3

9XD OR Marion Smart, 6 Brookside, Runcton, Chichester, Sussex. PO20 6PX. Please enclose S.A.E..

FOR SALE - Star Trek Greeting cards, posters, (NCC 1701 and 1701D) and other exclusive merchandise. Send SAE for latest list to Old Worlds, P.O. Box 338A, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 5JQ.

FOR SALE - IDIC newsletters 9-23 60p each, ST The Official Fan Club magazines nos. 63, 67, 68, 70 to 86 £1.30p each. All 20 magazines £21. Please list alternatives when ordering, all magazines are in good condition. NICHELLE NICHOLS Out of this World, Featuring "Gene", includes audio interview with Nichelle Nichols, as new £5.50. Star Trek novels & large soft backs: The Lost Years £1, Spock's World £1, Captain's Log: WS's account of the Making of STV £3.50, ST The Worlds of the Federation £7, ST VI novel, £1, Star Trek Compendium £8.95. CIC TNC video, The Enemy and The Price, (only played once) £6. ST films 1-5 £6 each.. Audio novels on cassette: STIV read by LN & GT £3, Final Frontier read by LN & JD £3, Spock's World 'double cassette' £4, The Lost Years ditto £4, WS's TekWar and Tek Lords, both 'double cassettes' £4.50 o.n.o. All prices include p&p. Peter G Hughes, Bryn Myr West End, Glan Conwy, Colwyn Bay, Clwyd LL28 5SY.

FOR SALE - Science fiction books, comics and videos. Most books are media related, eg Indiana Jones, Space 1999. Large SAE to P Hulford, 14 Hartley Close, Frogmore, Camberley, Surrey GU17 0DE.

FOR SALE - Trek Novels & many other items. NOVELS (£1.50 each):- "Chain of Attack", "The Romulan Way", "Bloodthirst", "The Final Reflection", "Timetrap", "Memory Prime", "Web of the Romulans", "The Trellisane Confrontation" & "The Klingon Gambit" / ST:TNG VIDEO "Time Squared" & "The Icarus Factor" £5.00 / BLUEPRINTS:- Galaxy Class blueprints (5 sheets showing various views & sections of Enterprise-D) £5.00, USS Enterprise "evolution" blueprints (three 24" by 36" sheets showing 10 classes of starships) £5.00, Size comparison chart (1 very large sheet showing comparisons of Enterprise against various other spaceships)

£5.00 / NON-FICTION BOOKS:- "Chekov's Enterprise" £4.00, "The Star Trek Interview Book" £3.00, "Captain's Log - The Making of Star Trek V" £3.00, "The World Of Star Trek" £4.00 and "Klingon Dictionary" (Old Pocket Book version) £2.00. Also "Star Trek II Photostory" £1.00, "Star Trek III Photo/Novel Book" £1.50, "Star Trek: The Motion Picture Pop-Up Book" £1.50, "Worlds Of The Federation" £5.00, "The Star Trek Compendium" £5.00, "Mr. Scott's Guide To The Enterprise" £5.00 and "The Making Of The Star Trek Films" £5.00. Phone Edwin on Brighton (0273) 734860 at any time. All prices inc. P+P, and I will consider swapping for anything you have.

FOR SALE: Star Trek: The Role-Playing Game. Also Klingon and Romulan information supplements, Triangle Campaign (4 adventures and an information supplement), Federation, Romulan and Klingon Ship Recognition Manuals, Ship's Construction Manual, Federation Supplement and Next Generation Officer's Manual. Everything @ £5 each inc. P+P. Phone Edwin on Brighton (0273) 734860 at any time. I will consider swapping for anything you have.

WANTED - Zine PULSE OF THE MACHINE by Jean Kluge, to buy or borrow. Will pay all necessary costs. P Hulford, 14 Hartley Close, Frogmore, Camberley, Surrey GU17 0DE.

WANTED - Any photos of ST - Mirror, Mirror. Especially of 'Mirror' crew. Also - any photos, articles or information on Quantum Leap and Ed Bishop (UFO or any other roles). Please reply to Mrs R. Irving, 56 Exeter Road, Southville, Bristol BS3 1LZ

WANTED - Serious collector and Star Trek enthusiast seeks weapon and equipment models, blueprints and actual authentic props. Also costumes and insignia badges, plus Next Generation Communicator badge (with sound). Good prices paid. Please send full details and price to: Simon Clark, The Old Parsonage, Higher Road, Pensilva, Cornwall PL14 5NG.

WANTED - 03H Romulan Warbird and 04H Ferengi maurauder holograms to complete my collection. Will pay a price for them.

E8202242, SAC J. Tobin, S.E.S., RAF Chivenor, Barnstable, N. Devon EX31 4AZ.

WANTED - to complete set, the following Star Trek Next Gen Collector cards in VG condition, numbers 01D, 01H, 02H. Reasonable prices paid. Contact Martin Sinclair, 104 Caledon Close, Bilton Grange, Hull HU9 4EQ.

WANTED - Does anyone have videos of the Western series Iron Horse that they would like to sell? Contact Muriel Jarrett, 111 Winchester Rd, Brislington, Bristol BS4 3NH.

WANTED - Episodes of "Taxi" series on VHS. Sheila Cornall, 5 Warwick Crescent, Hayes, Middx. UB4 8RE.

WANTED - Any articles, cuttings etc. (not the video) about the TNG episode "Tin Man". Especially any info on Harry Groener who played Tam Elbrun. Reasonable prices paid. Contact M. Copple, 1 Denebank, All Hallows Road, Bispham, Blackpool FY2 0AS

WANTED - The Star Trek Compendium (original version or updated one), any TNG Official poster magazine, and any Star Trek posters. Please contact Philip Morley, 407 Fleetwood Road, Fleetwood, Lancs. FY7 8HN. Will pay good price.

WANTED - IDIC Newsletters nos. 17 to 22. Will return them or will pay for them. Linda Dupont, 156 5th Avenue, St-Pierre, Quebec, Canada H8R 1P2.

FREE Final Frontier VIDEO!!

I am attempting a 7000 word project towards a BA and urgently need opinions from SF readers about libraries (especially if you don't use them!). Send me your opinions using the questions below as a guideline and one of the replies will receive the video.

I will forward the video in time for Christmas and the winner will be announced in IDIC and Enterprise Originals newsletters in the New Year. (Please note that anyone who replied to this questionnaire in the last Enterprise Originals newsletter will be included - the video was kindly donated after

that newsletter went out.)

- 1) Do you use libraries for SF and/or other fiction?
- 2) If you don't use libraries, or use them but never borrow SF, what puts you off doing so?
- 3) Does your library have a special SF section or are the books shelved by author only in one sequence? Which system do you prefer?
- 4) If the books are in one sequence by author is there any indication on the spine as to contents? (SF, Romance, Western etc) If so is this indicated by letters or graphics? (eg some libraries indicate Westerns by a small picture of a gun). Do you like this system?

ANY OTHER COMMENTS ABOUT LIBRARIES WOULD ALSO BE WELCOME (eg if the nearest library is not within walking distance, the staff are unfriendly, no interesting books, long waiting lists for new items etc. ANYTHING which stops you using them.)

REPLIES to: Pam Crabtree, 58 Beresford Drive, Southport, Lancs. PR9 7JY

NB This is a genuine CIC video.

STAR TREK FAN AND ACTOR CLUBS UPDATE

We have available a set of information sheets giving the addresses and brief details of all the British Star Trek clubs and local groups we know about, plus Star Trek related actor clubs in the UK and abroad. If you would like a copy write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 6" SAE plus an extra loose 17p stamp. (Note: new members receive a copy of this when they join IDIC, although we update it with the following info from each newsletter.)

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

Calling all Star Trek fans in Northern Ireland! Would you like a fan club based in N.I.? If the answer is 'yes' contact Clint Aiken, 68 Gilpin Park, Dollingstown, Lurgan, Co. Armagh, Northern Ireland BT66 7LA. Tel No: (0762) 324140.

BEYOND ANTARES: A Star Trek club set up to serve fans primarily in the UK, but with members worldwide. Bi-monthly newsletters include all the latest news regarding Star Trek as well as more general information on the original series, the films, The Next Generation and Deep Space Nine. Membership dues per year (6 newsletters): UK £6.00, Europe £7.50, USA £9.50/\$20.00, Australia £10.00. Please make cheques/POs payable to BEYOND ANTARES and foreign drafts/money orders payable to Sue Toher. No foreign currency except US dollars accepted. For further information, contact Sue Toher, 56 Spring Lane, Bishopstoke, Eastleigh, Hants SO5 6BA. Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope or two IRCs.

THE FINAL FRONTIER TNG FAN CLUB 3 A4 newsletters (Galaxy News), Personalised Certificate, Membership card. Dues: single £3, family £5.50 (3 people), overseas £10.00. The Final Frontier, 167 Rosefield Road, Smethwick, Warley, West Midlands B67 6DY

ATTENTION KLINGONS! All Klingon Assault Group communications should be sent to Robert Kirkwood, 2 Isles Terrace, Newmilns, Ayrshire, Scotland KA16 9TZ. Send an S.A.E. for further details.

RICHARD DEAN ANDERSON APPRECIATION SOCIETY: Join the Society for fans of the T.V. hero MacGyver, and its star Richard Dean Anderson. For your yearly membership fee of £7.50 (UK members) you receive four issues of our quarterly handbook, membership card and colour photograph. Info: Richard Dean Anderson Appreciation Society, Barbara M. Heywood, 50 Albion Road, London N16 9PH.

TIMEWARP is the Official British Rocky Horror Fan Club catering for both film and show followers. We are in our most exciting year yet, with plenty more to come. Four newsletters per year, membership card, and a chance to buy exclusive memorabilia, and advance information on tour and screening venues and dates. Costs £7.50 plus four large S.A.E.s at least 40p postage per envelope per year. Overseas members welcome: costs as above plus 16 International Reply Coupons. For membership forms send S.A.E. to

Timewarp, 1 Elm Grove, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9HE. Monies made payable to Timewarp.

HORIZON, the Blake's Seven Appreciation Society. Founded in 1980, Horizon is a friendly club and welcomes new members, who will receive 4 glossy, A4 size, 80+ page newsletters containing interviews, LOCs, articles, news on the cast, etc.) plus free club badge and membership card. Optional additional membership to LETTERZINE. Also vast range of fanzines & merchandise (incl. photos, scripts, notepads, mugs, badges, photo-stamps and special deal on the BBC B7 videos) and regular London and regional meetings and outings. Please sent SAE (or US \$1 or 2 IRCs for overseas) for application form, current rates &/or further information to: Miss Ann Steele, Horizon Club, 66 Sherwood Park Rd., Surrey SM1 2SG, UK.

LOCAL GROUP NEWS

MANCHESTER STARFLEET: Branch of the NSFA. Meets the third Sunday of the month, starting 16th August, at Shawe Hall Community Centre, Urmston, Manchester. 1pm - 5pm. Videos, quizzes, raffles, outings. For more info and directions send SASE to Ardra Cochrane, 27 Common Lane, Leigh, Lancs WN7 4QW.

ENTHUSIASTIC FANS WANTED! - Would you be interested in joining a new Star Trek Group (Classic and T.N.G.)? If you live in the Staffs, Warks, Birmingham area, within easy travelling distance of Tamworth... **CONTACT US!!!** : Lee Sansome & Gaile Wood, 15 Foxglove, Amington, Tamworth, Staffs. B77 4HY.

Anyone wishing to start a local group in the BATH area, please contact me. L. J. Turner, 21 Shaws Way, Twerton, Bath, Avon BA2 1QQ.

IPSWICH STARFLEET Star Trek Fan Club encompassing all forms of Star Trek. Raffles, videos, role playing games, competitions, free news sheet, tactical combat, displays, social outings and 'Ten Forward' coffee bar! Meeting dates for 1992 (Sundays 1.00pm -

6.00pm) October 4th, November 1st, December 6th at Nacton Village Hall (follow signs for Nacton off the A45). Admission £1. If needed lifts can be arranged - phone (0394) 671253. For details please write, with SAE, to Chris Wileman, 15 Parkeston Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 8NF or telephone number above.

WAKEFIELD STARFLEET a new Star Trek club, member of NSFA. Meets every third Sunday of the month at Ossett Community Centre, Ossett, Nr. Wakefield at 2pm. Fans may attend two meetings before membership of NSFA is required, NSFA members attend free of charge! NSFA membership costs £4.00 per year. For further info send an SAE to Wakefield Starfleet, 14 Meadowfields Road, Crofton, Wakefield, West Yorkshire.

HULL STARFLEET Video programme, social outings, competitions. Meeting dates - 21st June, 19th July, 16th August, 2pm - 6.30 pm at Marist Rugby Club, admission £1. For more information contact Tracy Beadle, 7 Lynwood Grove, Goddard Avenue, Hull HU5 2BE, tel. 0482 48562

FARPOINT needs you! If you live in the Isle of Wight area then this new local group needs you. SAE for info to Philippa Timms, Silver Glade, 9 Grangeside, Shore Road, Bonchurch, Isle of Wight PO38 1RW.

THE LONDON STAR TREK GROUP meets every two months or so at the Britannia Intercontinental Hotel, Grosvenor Square, London W1. Nearest Tube: Bond Street. The next meeting is September 12th, starting at 10.30am till about 7pm, at a cost of £5, children accompanied by an adult free. For more details send an SAE to Kim Farey, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

LEEDS STARFLEET: SAE to Leeds Starfleet, Leeds LS6 4TE. Meetings (incl. video programme) are held between 12 and 5pm on the following Sundays at the Headingley Community Centre, North Lane, Leeds: June 14th, July 12th, August 9th.

THE AWAY TEAM: Glasgow Star Trek Local Group. Meetings every 6 weeks approx. at the Central Hotel, Glasgow, 10.00am -

10.00pm. Come along and watch the latest videos - you will also get the chance to chat with other fans and to buy merchandise. Entry £5.00. Forthcoming dates: Sundays; 25th October, 22 November, 10th January, 21st February, 4th April and 9th May. SAE for info to The Away Team, P.O. Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR.

THE BRIDGE CREW: - formerly The Landing Party. A local group based in the south east of Scotland. Fortnightly meetings at the Ailsa Craig Hotel. The group can be contacted at Wester Auchinricoch Farm, Banton, Near Kilsyth G65 0QZ. Please enclose an SAE.

PRIME DIRECTIVE meets twice monthly at a city centre venue. Activities include days out, video evenings etc. Newcomers always welcome. Write to Michael Butcher, 501 Beechdale Road, Aspley, Nottingham NG8 3LF, for further info, enclosing an SAE.

OPEN HOUSE First weekend of every month but please phone first to check (081 985 0426). Zines for sale, tapes to watch, other fans to chat to. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney E9.

STAR TREK: THE NEW GATHERING (U.S.S. Discovery). Local meetings held in the Community Room, St Helens Library monthly. Write for details to Sharon Rowe, 93 Juddfield Street, Haydock, St Helens, Merseyside WA11 0BD.

THE OUTER ZONE: meets once a month in Brighton - chat about anything Trek-related and all the latest news on SF & Fantasy, and sometimes go on the odd trip to the local movie theatre or con. Watch THE LATEST up-to-date TNG episodes. We also produce "Zone Guide - Phase II" see Zine Ads for details). SASE for further details to Ms. Sue Parker, The Outer Zone, 42 Victoria Street, BRIGHTON, East Sussex, BN1 3FQ.

DREAMWEAVERS local group specialising in Doctor Who, Star Trek and other cult Sci-fi. Meets once every two weeks in the Bury St Edmunds/Haverhill area. (Annual membership (£5) includes free copies of our 30+

page quarterly newsletter Warp Nine (available separately). For more information please send a SAE to Ursula Clarke, 10 Bunbury Road, Bury St. Edmunds, IP32 6HT.

☆☆☆☆

The deadline for submissions (articles, reviews, ads, etc) for the next newsletter is November 12th (November 8th for things sent to Sheila).

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The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Send to:-

Janet - Subscriptions/Renewals, renewals, all newsletter submissions on disc; all news, cuttings, adverts, merchandise info etc. for the newsletter; used stamps for the Guide Dogs.

Sheila - All Zine orders; postbag, articles & reviews for the newsletter; TNG submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork); used stamps.

Valerie - Classic Trek submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork).

Helen - Submissions of crosswords, quizzes etc.

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Typing by Janet & Sheila; layout, initial edit and printing of masters by Janet; proof-reading and final edit by Sheila and Valerie.

Printed by Urban Print, 57 Perth Road, Dundee.

Packed by Sheila's Chain Gang.
900 copies.